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PRETTY and CHEAP. We are showing a superior stock of goods in our line embracing such as: Mohair Dress Goods, Percaloes, Serges, Silver Gray Suitings, Silks, White Lawns, Gingham, etc.

PRICE LIST OF R. W. Jones Corn Whiskies. F. O. B. Clarksville, Virginia.

We are Distillers and Make Our Own Whiskies. 100 proof. 1 gallon of Whiskey and jug, \$2.15. 2 gallons of Whiskey and jug, 4.30. 3 gallons of Whiskey and jug, 6.50. 4 gallons of Whiskey and jug, 8.60. 1 gallon 4 years old Whiskey, 2.50. 1 gallon 8 years old Whiskey, 3.00. 4 qts of 10 years old Whiskey, 4.00. 1-2 gallon of Whiskey and jug, 1.25.

TAFT AND THE TWENTIETH. [The following unique poem was written by Mrs. Lisette Clayton Hood. (formerly Miss Lisette Bernheim, well and favorably known in connection with her magazine and newspaper work on the State press some years ago) on the occasion of the celebration of May 20th, 1909. Its historic as well as its present day allusions, together with its rhythmic merit will make a good scrap book preservation to the lovers of poetry. Mrs. Hood is now associated with the Mill News of Charlotte, as editor of the Home Department of that publication, a position in which she is performing most commendable and helpful service even if it does not call forth literary effort of as high order as she is capable of.]

MECKLENBURG DECLARATION MAY 20th, 1909, GREATEST DAY IN HISTORY OF CHARLOTTE. President Taft Makes Notable Speech - Partisan Politics Not a Factor in the Disposition of High Judicial Offices - His Course in Seemingly Ignoring the Republican Party in the Appointment of Judge Connor to the Federal Bench - Discusses Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence and Has Words of Commendation for the Practical Measures Provided by That Document - Nation's Chief Magistrate Given Hearty Welcome - Introduced by Gov. Kitchin.

WELCOMED royally as the head of a united nation with all the honors which a patriotic and public-spirited people could bestow, and responding in a kindred spirit which inspired him to pledge his power to the obliteration of all sectional differences, the Hon. William Howard Taft, President of the United States of America, was for twelve hours yesterday the welcome guest of Charlotte and of North Carolina. Culminated then the celebration in honor of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence with which all the drenching power of a Gulf coast rain-storm could but partially interfere. Never in the history of the City of Charlotte has there previously occurred such a day - marked by such a contest between the powers of men and those of nature, a contest which had a drawn battle as its final issue, with the honors, all things considered, well earned by the plucky celebrants.

Kitchin, "that these exercises must be held indoors, instead of outside, where everybody could see and hear. Today is the Twentieth of May, and my countrymen, if the floods that have descended today could not dampen the ardor of the Twentieth of May spirit, you may know that that spirit is warmed by the eternal truth. "Mr. President, I understand that when you were inaugurated in Washington—a happy event, at which I could not be present—the storms that rage today will guarantee that we have surpassed any inauguration time, if it had just been winter time. "The Chief Magistrate of this nation has of late gathered crowds than this in the greater cities of the country; in immense auditoriums often have 12,000 and 15,000 people heard him, but never did a truer people, a nobler people, or a more patriotic people hear him than will hear him today, a people who seek for the truth, and worship at the shrine of justice, whose loyalty to home and country and to God is unshaken; a people whose patriotism is as boundless as the influence of the American Republic. "Ladies and Gentlemen: The vast crowds that have gathered in this beautiful city in this May-time this year, are not merely paying tribute to history and heroism and patriotism, but they are also paying tribute to the man who stands before you, the splendid fame, the worthy services and the exalted position of the President of our common country. Fellow countrymen of the Carolina, this sea of intelligent faces, this happy and cheering multitude, welcome to him far beyond the power of man to express in words. "And yet it has been fitting that your honorable servant not merely in his own behalf, and voicing his own sentiments of joy, but in behalf of the great Commonwealth of Carolina, should participate in the exercises as an official evidence of the sincere pleasure of the genuine welcome which North Carolina tenders today to one whose strength was great enough to make him the leader of a great political party; whose neighborhood and magnetism and patriotism and greatness were sufficient to make him the highest official of the greatest people in the universe. "Carolinians, I present to you His Excellency, the President of the United States, the honorable William Howard Taft, who will speak to you. PRESIDENT OUTLINES A POINTMENT POLICY. Declaring it the fixed purpose of his administration to do everything which circumstances empower him to do to remove the last vestige of sectional feeling remaining as an after-effect of the war between the States and, as a means to that end, announcing it to be his policy in selecting men for important positions to make his decisions largely on the basis of the respect and honor in which they are held by their home people with whom they are to serve, the President declared that the enthusiastic cheers of 5,000 people who filled the Auditorium, at the intersection of College and Fifth streets, in the afternoon. Interesting reference was made to the appointment of Judge Connor to the Federal Bench. "The Federal judiciary to my mind," said the President, "is the strongest bulwark we have in all this country to protect our institutions of civil liberty. And there is no greater duty resting upon the chief Executive of this nation than that of the appointment of a man to that position who will strengthen it to all the people at large. The Federal judiciary should be as much appreciated in the South as in the North and if I have an opportunity to make such appointments in the South it will continue to be my duty to make such appointments as will appeal to all the people, whether they are Republicans or Democrats, and I ask all citizens, whether they be Republicans or Democrats, to accept them and congratulate the people on the appointment and not make use of them for any political or partisan argument or partisan appeal. "These were perhaps the most significant utterances of his speech of more than an hour, so far as the South and the country at large is interested. Entirely satisfactory to the most exacting defenders of the validity of the Declaration were Mr. Taft's references to that famous document. "There is a controversy," he said, "as to what were the exact words used in that Declaration. No word was uttered expressive of doubt as to the fact that Mecklenburg did declare her independence, though he did not attach nearly so much importance to the mere fact of the declarations made as to the provisions made for a new government. "My friends," said he, "these general declarations, unaccompanied by some general sense of the responsibility of self-government, are worth little or nothing. It is the men who go forward, knowing what they are doing, who believe in the relations to one government and understand that the only justification for so doing is the practical preparation of a new government. That is what makes Anglo-Saxon liberty that we deal with what was practical and not with what was poetical and oratorical and rhetorical. "The war of independence here, and in '76 we all declared our independence at Philadelphia, we were in a condition with men as great, as able, as full of the knowledge of statecraft as any nation in Europe or any nation that ever lived, to step into the ranks of nations and carry on a government worthy the consideration of the world. "THE WAR IS OVER. "Now, we have had a great deal of experience since that time. We have been through a number of wars. We watched the institution of slavery grow by unfortunate circumstances until it seemed to be an issue that had to be fought out, and that we could not cure the body politic except by an excision that threatened the whole physical structure of the nation. But we have lived that through. You in the Southland had the troubles, the suffering, the loss, and loss burned into your hearts with much more emphasis than we in the Northland, because here was the center of the war, and it is entirely natural that in the forty years which have succeeded the war, with the continuance here of the race whose face was the cause of the war, that their condition, even after the magnanimous spirit shown on both sides at Appomattox was blazoned to the world, there should continue a bitterness of feeling that time and long time could only efface; but when we look back I think we must congratulate ourselves that even in that time the feeling has so largely disappeared, and that we are now a more united country than ever since we should say even a decade before the war. (Applause.) "One could not stand, as I did, on the platform yesterday, and see 1,200 Union veterans from Pennsylvania, who had taken part in the battles about Gettysburg, meet and fraternize with 500 veterans of the Confederacy in their gray, and hear the expressions of mutual esteem and mutual appreciation of the bravery on both sides and the desire to further unite without being convinced that there is a sincere and a deep-rooted feeling on both sides. It is true that political divisions have continued in such a way as at some times to seem to perpetuate the lines which were made at the time of the war, but even those lines are rapidly disappearing; and it is the duty of

all of us with respect to political partisanship to wipe out those lines as far as we can, and to see, so far as we may, that in each State the tolerance of opinion shall continue until there shall be respectable parties on both sides of the line, because it is essential to have a good opposition to have a good government. PROMISES TO HELP. "Now, if there is anything that I can do in my administration to make that feeling of union, more close, I shall do it. When I was running for the presidency, I prided myself on having been the first Republican candidate that ever came into North Carolina seeking suffrages for the Republican party. I did not carry the State, but I had a mighty good time. (Laughter and cheers.) I am anxious, of course, speaking from a partisan standpoint and leaving my official position for a moment, that the Republican party of North Carolina should be strengthened merely to have a good fight every election, and of course in so far as I may legitimately I should be glad to build up the Republican party. Now, I understand that some of my Republican friends think that I have lost sight of the Republican party (cheers and laughter) in putting into office in North Carolina a gentleman now upon the Supreme bench of the State, but a lawyer of the highest eminence and learning and integrity, and a Democrat. (Cheers.) "I promised, after I was President-elect, not before the election, to the South that I would do the best I could to wipe out the feeling that the central government at Washington was a government alien to the South, and I pointed out that the only way by which the Executive could cure that feeling was, in so far as in him lay, to put into office men in whom the community at large, with respect to party, would have the highest confidence. Now, I am trying to do that, and I am going to appoint Democrats, striving in each case to get a man who will commend himself to the community in which he lives. "It is suggested that it is an insult to the Republicans of a district to appoint a Democrat a judge because from that it is inferred that there is no Republican worthy of the appointment, and I understand that there are some Democrats who seek to make that inference as strong as possible. (Laughter.) But I venture to say that when the whole account is added up, that spirit will have disappeared and the Democrats who seek to utter it will find that it is not such a popular method of attacking the Republican administration after all. SHOULD COMMAND RESPECT AT HOME. "I pleaded to my Republican friends as a vindication and justification of my course, the course of as to appoint a Republican as ever filled the Executive chair, and a man whom there never was a President who did so much to maintain the standard of the Federal judiciary, as Benjamin Harrison, for he deemed it his duty to put a Democrat on the Supreme bench and two Democrats on the Courts of Appeal. The Federal judiciary, my dear friends, to my mind is the strongest bulwark that we have in all this country to protect ultimate our institutions of civil liberty. There are the things that the Federal constitution that we must love and must hug to our bosom if we continue this civilization, and therefore there is no more sacred duty that the Executive has than in the selection of men whose appointment and services on the bench will strengthen it with all the people at large; and therefore, ordinary considerations of political partisanship have much less application to the appointment of judges than they do to other and temporary offices. The Federal judiciary should be as much appreciated in the South as it is in the North, and if I have an opportunity to make any appointments in the South, it will continue to be the chief duty I have to make such appointments as will appeal to all the people, whether they be Republican or Democrat, (cheers) and I urge all citizens, whether they be Republicans or Democrats, to accept the appointments made as men, if they are men, who will carry on their high duties with a single eye to the administration of justice, and not to make use of them for any partisan argument or partisan appeal. THE PRESIDENT CLOSES. "And now, my dear friends, I have got to close my speech, I believe. I think now that we are at a point where there is to be a political revolution in the South. I never had such a dream as that. I believe we are on the eve of such a condition in the South that there shall be complete tolerance of opinion and that there shall grow into respectable power an opposition party in each State which shall tend to the betterment of the government as it exists in the State and which shall give us occasionally, as you have already given us in North Carolina, a Republican in a crowd of Democrats, in order that we may have represented in the Congress at Washington your views without regard to some past issue, without regard to the ghost of an issue that really ought not to influence you in enforcing those particular economic views which you really entertain. "Let me again say to you, how my heart has been aroused by the cordiality of your reception, by the hearty welcome of you distinguished Governor and your Congressmen and your Senators, whether Republicans or Democrats, and to say to you that I haven't spoken here conscientiously a word to influence you in a partisan way, but that I am willing to discuss the condition without mentioning the parties. I hope you will therefore forgive me for an apparent reference to political conditions when I am really only extending to you the right of a fellow citizen to an American, explaining possibly by inference some of the difficulties of conducting this Government as its Chief Executive. Thank you."

occasion, and to give me welcome. I should like to include, too, those members of the Confederate Veterans, those members of the Grand Army of the Republic, those members of the Daughters of the Revolution, that distinguished lady, the widow of Stonewall Jackson, and all the other charming and delightful people who exposed themselves to the elements this morning to celebrate a birthday, and in part, I hope, to give me welcome. "I wish to express also to the committee of arrangements my deep regret that Mrs. Taft was not able to be present to share the welcome which your committee was good enough to tender her. I assure you I don't make near so good a show when the better half of my firm is not with me. "I wish to express also to the committee of arrangements my deep regret that Mrs. Taft was not able to be present to share the welcome which your committee was good enough to tender her. I assure you I don't make near so good a show when the better half of my firm is not with me. 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