

Merry Christmas

To all our customers, present and prospective. May your Christmas stocking be padded right down to the toe, full up and running over.

Gifts in Leather Goods

Every one feels proud of a present in leather. There is always a use for it. It almost seems as if you could never get enough pieces in leather. We look at it that way and we believe you will when you are making selections for your gift list from our great variety of Hand Bags, Satchels, Purses, Pocket Books, Card Cases Dollar Bags, Cuff Boxes; something you can depend on being a credit to the giver are the only grades we handle.

STATIONARY

Always is an important item in our stock but our stock this Christmas season is beyond description in new creations, new colors and new materials. A box of stationary always makes an acceptable Christmas gift.

CIGARS

Are appreciated by ninety per cent. of your gentlemen friends, but cigars are a line ladies cannot always buy with safety. Unless you come to our store you are liable to get something your friend will not like. In boxes special for Christmas, \$1.00 to \$5.00

Ladies' Dressing and Manicure Cases

Brush and Toilet Sets, represent a large portion of our stock. You are absolutely safe in making your selection here, without visiting any other store.

WALTER S. MARTIN & CO.
DRUGGISTS,
HICKORY, N. C.

A STORY OF HEROISM

Showing How Brave Men Can Calmly Meet Death.

WRECK OF THE BIRKENHEAD.

The Way This British Vessel Went Down Off the Cape of Good Hope. Most of the Crew Were Lost and All the Women and Children Saved.

Visitors to the hospital of the old pensioners at Chelsea will perhaps have noticed in the colonnade a simple memorial tablet, placed there by order of the late Queen Victoria to record the heroic constancy and discipline of the officers and soldiers who lost their lives in the wreck of the transport Birkenhead off the Cape of Good Hope on Feb. 26, 1852. On Jan. 7 in that year, after embarking re-enforcements amounting to fifteen officers and 478 men for the troops engaged in the Kaffir war, the Birkenhead left Ireland for the cape. On board were also 168 women and children, the wives and families of soldiers. All went well till the transport reached Simon's Town, where ten officers and eighteen men were landed. The ship continued her course on the evening of Feb. 25. But the captain in his anxiety for a quick passage unfortunately kept so close to the shore that during the night the ship got among the rocks which line the coast. About three miles off Danger point at 2 o'clock in the morning of the 26th, while all except those on watch were sleeping peacefully in their hammocks, the ship struck with a violent shock. The bulk of the men on board were young soldiers.

The rush of water on the Birkenhead striking was so great that most of the soldiers on the lower troop deck were drowned in their hammocks. The remainder, with all the officers, appeared on deck, many only partly dressed, and fell in an orderly and as quietly as on the barrack square. Calling the officers round him, Lieutenant Colonel Seton of the Seventy-fourth highlanders, the senior officer on board, impressed on them the necessity for preserving order and silence among the men. The services of the next senior, Captain Wright, Ninety-first highlanders, were placed at the disposal of the commander of the ship to carry out whatever orders he might consider essential. Sixty men were put on the chain pumps on the lower after deck and told off in three reliefs. Sixty more were put on to the tackles of the paddle box boats, and the remainder were brought on to the poop to ease the fore part of the ship, as she was rolling heavily. The commander next ordered the officers' chargers to be pitched out of the gangway. The plunging and terrified horses were got up and cast over, five of them managing to swim ashore. The cutter was then got ready for the women and children, who had been collected under the poop awning, and they were passed in one by one. There being room in the boat for one or two more, the order was given for any trumpeter or bugler boys to be taken. A young drummer standing near was told by an officer to get into the boat, but, drawing himself up, exclaimed that he drew man's pay and would stick by his comrades. The cutter then shoved off in charge of one of the ship's officers, and the women and children were safe.

No sooner was she clear than the entire bow of the vessel broke off at the foremast, the bowsprit going up in the air toward the foretopmast. The funnel also went over the side, carrying away the starboard paddle box and boat and crushing the men on the tackles. The paddle box boat capsized on being lowered, and the large boat in the center of the ship could not be got up.

The men were then ordered on to the poop, where they stood calmly awaiting their fate. Within a few minutes the vessel broke in two, crosswise, just abaft the engine room, and the stern began rapidly to fill. In this extremity the commander called out, "Those who can swim jump overboard and make for the boats!" but the officers begged the soldiers not to, as the boat with the women and children would be swamped. They were young men in the prime of life, with all before them, yet no one moved, nor did any sign of terror or fear escape them. Lower and lower sank the vessel into the deadly sea. The old transport shivered, gave a final plunge and disappeared, carrying with her the band of heroes on deck and those working below at the pumps.

Men of all ages and ranks they were—the colonel and the drummer boy, officers of gentle birth and men from the workshop, the plow and the mine, but all animated with the same heroic resolution, fortitude and chivalry—as cool as though they had been on their parade ground, with as much courage as in action in the field. A few managed to cling to the rigging of the mainmast, part of which remained out of water, while others got hold of floating pieces of wood and were eventually rescued, but of fourteen officers and 458 men no fewer than nine officers and 349 men perished, many falling prey to the attacks of the sharks, which surrounded the ship in shoals, waiting for their victims. Every woman and child was saved.

Perhaps the greatest compliment ever paid to the memory of the brave was the order of the king of Prussia for the account of the wreck of the Birkenhead to be read on three successive parades at the head of every regiment in his army, and it was spoken of in every school in Prussia and Germany.

—London Globe.

Items From Granite Falls.

Correspondence to The Democrat. We will have several entertainments and Christmas trees in our city during the holidays. There will be a tree and some appropriate exercises at the M. E. church Christmas eve, and a treat and some exercises at the Lutheran and Baptist churches on Christmas day and night.

The workmen are putting the finishing touches to Mr. W. E. Starnes dwelt g.

Warlick & Whisman Co., are putting in some new machinery and building an addition to their table plant. They will then have an up-to-date plant for making all kinds of plain and veneered tables.

The Dudley Shoals Cotton mill are preparing to run both day and night by building a lot more tenement houses putting in new boiler and engine.

W. T. Sherrill received a telegram from his son Luther who is in the State of Washington, that he was dangerously ill with appendicitis. He afterwards was operated on and was doing very well the last they heard from him.

Mr. Ottis Mackie has sold his farm and will move to Virginia in the near future.

Hustler.

City Bakery.

Mr. C. W. Ellington of Virginia has recently purchased the City Bakery and is prepared to serve the people of Hickory with all kinds of bread, cakes and pies. Mr. Ellington has had seven years experience in his line and fully understands his business. No pains or expense is spared by him to give his customers the best products of the baker's skill. He carries a full and complete line of Sparrows chocolates Heady's box candies and other confections. We are glad to welcome Mr. Ellington to our town and hope our people will give him a liberal portion of their patronage, as we believe him to be a man in every way worthy of our confidence. He is prepared to deliver your bread or cakes right to your own door and all orders will be promptly filled.

Claremont College.

If one is to judge by the expressions of praise on the part of those who have attended, the Monday Evening Entertainments at Claremont College have been most enjoyable occasions. We are told however that the best of the season will be the Grand Christmas Concert given on next Friday night, December 18th. Some of the music has been ordered from Italy, the same not being published in this country. No admission fee will be charged and the public is most cordially invited to attend.

Death of Mrs. Russell

Mrs. Elizabeth Russell, wife of Mr. D. H. Russell, died in this city, Monday, after-noon, at the age of fifty-two. She leaves a husband and two children—Atty D. L. Russell and Mrs. Albert Huffman, of this city. Mrs. Russell had been ill for some time, and her death was not altogether unexpected. The funeral was conducted from the Lutheran church Tuesday after-noon, Dr. J. C. Messer officiating, the interment being in Oakwood cemetery. The bereaved friends have our deep sympathy.

Lady Wanted—Honest industrious woman wanted to introduce our large line of fancy and staple dress goods, waisting, trimmings etc., among friends, neighbors and townspeople. We also manufacture a full line of perfumes and toilet articles, no swags. Should be able to earn \$20. or more weekly. Dealing direct from the mills our prices are low and patterns exclusive. No money required. Write us for full particulars.

Standard Dress Goods Co., Dept. 9 Binghamton, N. Y.

DeWitt's Kidney and Bladder Pills FOR BACKACHE

BROOKFORD ITEMS

A Baptist Church for Brookford, Christmas Entertainments, Marriages, Hogkilling Times, Etc.

Correspondent to the Democrat.

On Dec. 1st Mr. W. H. Hoppes and Miss Mattie Davis were married and left the next day for Danville, Va., their future home.

Killing hogs is the order of the day here. One day last week there was 1700 lbs of pork killed. J. P. Killian had the largest one, it weighed 432 lbs.

The mill is running on full time. The manager has found it necessary to run part of the looms day and night.

We expect to have a Christmas tree about the 24th. The entertainment will be in the hall over the company store. Mrs. Holbrook is training the children, and all are expecting a nice time.

We have a good school which is well attended. Miss Daisy King of Charlotte is our teacher.

The Baptist congregation has let the contract for a new church. The site is on Main street near the company store. Mr. L. W. Poovey of Hickory has the contract for the brick work and Mr. Jones Abernethy will do the wood work.

Mr. F. F. Drake of Ware Shoals, S. C., is overhauling machinery in the card room of our mill. His wife will join him here next week. They will stop at the hotel Brookford.

Mr. John Daniel, manager of the E. L. Shuford store, will go to Forest City some time soon to spend a few days with his mother. His wife and babe will accompany him and will remain a month visiting, before their return.

Dr. A. D. Abernethy who went to Atlanta in Sept. to take a special course in dentistry is expected home the 19th.

Mrs. Arvin Abernethy has gone to Charlottesville, Va., to spend three months with her father, Mr. Mosteller.

C. H. Hewitt our boss spinner is all smiles. It's a boy. N.

FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE

Makes Kidneys and Bladder Healthy

Xmas Services at the Reformed Church.

The service at six o'clock Christmas morning has become a fixed institution in the life of Hickory. For more than twenty years this service has been held and the people not only of the congregation, but the entire town take much interest in it. It is appropriate, it is beautiful. The anthems and carols with the reading of the scriptures prepare for a proper observance of the day. The programme this year will be similar to those on former occasions and will lose none of its freshness, because praises to the New-born King are ever fresh and new.

Scott's Emulsion

of Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites should always be kept in the house for the following reasons:

First—Because, if any member of the family has a hard cold, it will cure it.

Second—Because, if the children are delicate and sickly, it will make them strong and well.

Third—Because, if the father or mother is losing flesh and becoming thin and emaciated, it will build them up and give them flesh and strength.

Fourth—Because it is the standard remedy in all throat and lung affections.

No household should be without it.

Send this advertisement, together with 25 cents of paper in which it appears, your address and four cents to cover postage, and we will send you a "Complete Handy Atlas of the World."

SCOTT & BOWNE, 409 Pearl St., New York

Everything To Eat

The best of Everything in the Grocery line May be Found at all Times at our Store.

Fresh Meats, Fish and Oysters

All Kinds of Fruits and Vegetables.

Heavy and Fancy Groceries

Polite and Prompt Service. Let us Supply You.

Hammond & Johnson

Main St.

Phone 86

Free Tickets to The Gem!

COMMENCING DEC. 8th and LASTING UNTIL DEC. 24th

We will give with every 50 cent purchase FREE TICKETS TO THE MOVING PICTURE SHOW the place you will want to go during the holidays. Here is a chance to get that NEW HAT you want before Christmas.

You will find nice and up-to-date Millinery to select from.

Come early that you may have a chance at the best values, feathers and Flowers before they are all gone. We will spare no effort to please our customers.

Miss M. E. Michael.

MAYES'

Great Decline in Prices

In Dry Goods, Notions, Shoes

Everything in this line will be sold at reduced prices

For the Next 60 Days

You can get as much from me for \$1.00 as you can get at other places for a third more. I have taken every advantage in buying and

Will Give My Customers the Benefit of My Experience

A Full Line of

Groceries & Fresh Meats

Ready to prepare for your table

All orders delivered promptly.

H. T. MAYES,

Phone 180

West Hickory, N. C.

The Democrat Is the best advertising medium in Cataw- county as it is read in very near every State in the Union, and in every home in the county. The subscription price is only \$1.00 per year.