

THE HICKORY DEMOCRAT

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Don't Sign That Lease
until you consult us. We have so many attractive homes on our list that it would really be worth your while to look them over; don't be hasty—stop around first. Don't forget to look over our list.

FIRE INSURANCE.
How about it? Is your home insured, or do you own anything that can burn and it not insured? Better pay out a small amount each year and know that if your buildings are destroyed by fire that you can rebuild them with the insurance money that you would get if you have us write you an insurance policy.

LIFE INSURANCE.

You do not have to die to win, as agents for the Southern Life & Trust Co., we can sell you for a small amount paid annually an insurance policy that will protect your estate while you are trying to build it up, and at the end of fifteen or twenty years you can send the policy to the company and get the money for it. We loan money on first mortgage real estate security.

Hickory Insurance & Realty Co.,

J. A. LENTZ, President. W. A. HALL, Vice-President. M. H. GROVES, Sec. Treas.
H. E. McCOMB, Asst. Mgr. Real Estate Dept.

Winter Goods!

Men's and Boy's

Clothing, Shoes and Hats

Ladies

OUR LINE OF DRESS GOODS AND NOTIONS ARE THE BEST IN THE CITY.

THE VALUE OF A DOLLAR IS WHAT YOU WANT ::::

SETZER & RUSSELL

HICKORY, N. C.

Sledge & Pleasants.

Wish to thank the people for their patronage the past year and most respectfully solicit a continuance of same for the year 1909.

Wishing you, one and all, a prosperous and a happy New Year, we are,
Yours respectfully,

Sledge & Pleasants

Subscribe for The Democrat. \$1 per Year.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy

During the past 35 years no remedy has proven more prompt or more effectual in its cure of Coughs, Colds and Croup than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. In many homes it is relied upon as implicitly as the family physician. It contains no opium or other narcotic, and may be given as confidently to a baby as to an adult. Price 25c; large size 50c.

KILL THE COUGH AND CURE THE LUNGS

WITH **Dr. King's New Discovery**

FOR COUGHS, COLDS, AND ALL THROAT AND LUNG TROUBLES.

GUARANTEED SATISFACTORY OR MONEY REFUNDED.

115,000 Dead.

300,000 Homeless and Starving—Entire Cities Destroyed—Earthquake's Terrible Work.

The greatest destruction of life in modern years with enormous loss of property occurred on Monday morning, Dec. 28th, inst., in Southern Italy and Sicily, the result of an earthquake. The number of dead is variously estimated from 115,000 to 200,000, while 300,000 people are homeless and starving. The towns of Messina, Reggio, and others of smaller population are practically wiped off the map. Out of 45,000 people in the city of Reggio, only half a dozen are living. Other towns in the district have suffered fearfully. After the quake, water from the sea rushed in, and swept away everything before it. Thousands of people were drowned. Many were caught beneath falling walls.

Fire broke out, and did its fearful work. The food supply was completely destroyed, and thousands of people are actually starving. Complete anarchy reigns in many places. Martial law has succeeded in restoring order in some places. The work of rescue is going on as rapidly as possible, but many days will be required to reach some of the most destitute places. Warships from European nations have been dispatched to the scene, and every assistance possible is being given.

The Queen Helena went quickly to the scene, and rendered every assistance in her power, even to the selling of the rings from her fingers. The King has decided to sell property in Cassino, and devote the funds to the relief of the sufferers. Many American cities have given liberally to the relief fund. It is thought that the President and Congress will take official action at once.

Identification of the hundreds of dead is impossible. The rescuers are simply collecting the bodies and burning them. Hundreds are being taken from the debris alive. Many of the survivors are perfectly insane. Words are inadequate to express the horrors as reported. It is undoubtedly the greatest disaster in the world's history since a little over 200 years ago when the sea and earth crushed out the lives of 200,000 little brown men of Jeddo, now Tokio.

Great flocks of crows are hovering over the ruined cities, brought there seemingly by instinct, and are already feasting on the dead bodies. The stench is becoming almost unbearable, while the incessant rains make it still more terrible.

The rain also adds much to the suffering of the unfortunate hundreds of almost nude people who are suffering from cold as well as hunger. Numberless dogs, driven to desperation by hunger, attack the sufferers and rescuers alike, and are being shot down by the soldiers.

THE PURE FOOD LAW.

Secretary Wilson says: "One of the objects of the law is to inform the customer of the presence of certain harmful drugs in medicines." The law requires that the amount of cholera, opium, morphine, and other habit-forming drugs be stated on the label of each bottle. The manufacturers of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy have always claimed that their remedy did not contain any of these drugs, and the truth of this claim is now fully proven, as no mention of them is made on the label. This remedy is not only one of the safest, but one of the best in use for coughs and colds. Its value has been proven beyond question during the many years it has been in use. For sale by C. M. Shuford.

Subscribe for The Democrat.

What I Saw and Heard in Washington.

(Continued.)

I wish to add that before leaving Washington, I had the pleasure of calling on our Representative, Hon. E. Yates Webb, who gave me a hearty hand-shake and cordial welcome. I spent an hour in conversation with him.

He expressed his regrets at not having been permitted to speak to us during the last campaign and assured me that if he could serve us in any way, to make our wishes known and he would do all in his power to help us. He pointed out the prominent men of the house of Representatives and points of interest around the Capitol and invited me to stay longer with him.

I also accompanied a delegation led by Gov. Guild of Mass. which appeared before the house Committee, at the Agricultural Department, in interest of the Appalachian Forest. Gov. Guild made an eloquent address as did a number of other prominent men. In the course of his remarks, Gov. Guild said "This is the first time in the history of the U. S. that the Gov. of Mass. and the Gov. of South Carolina have joined hands over the Mason and Dixon line in one common cause."

The hearing did not seem to make much impression upon the Committee and it was evident that there was some power behind the throne which had caused them to be prejudicial.

It was insinuated openly there that the "Lumber Barons" had got in some good work beforehand, and it was suggested that Teddy ought to turn his Secret Service dogs loose right there.

No one accorded me a more cordial reception than our friend Mr. V. M. Richards, Land and Industrial Agent of the Southern Ry. He has manifested and is still manifesting much interest in our town and vicinity as evidenced by communications I am receiving from him almost daily. He wishes to visit our city some time in January, and I would like to arrange for a large mass meeting to be addressed by him, and possibly another speaker, Mr. Locke Craig, told me on the train on my return, that he would be glad to come down at any time and speak for us.

We certainly need something to create more enthusiasm among us. Hickory has a wide reputation at a distance, as I found out in talking to men from other sections of the U. S., that is in the way of co-operation of her people, and especially in the way of facilities for entertaining and accommodating visitors here.

We will have to get out of this before we can expect to make any material advancement in any way. We must pull together and stick together in matters of mutual interest.

The greatest need of this place is a first-class hotel. We could have this if we would get together, and all who are able contribute as liberally to this end as possible. Sufficient funds could be raised easily here in Hickory to build a magnificent hotel here that would be a credit to the city.

But functions and prejudice must be set aside, and all work together as one man.

It is said that the hotel proposition at this place is not an attractive one, but we cannot judge the present by the past. The demands for better accommodations have increased a great deal since the Hickory Inn was destroyed by fire two years ago. A better class of travel is coming our way. Tourists, even, would stop off here and spend several months during the severe winter months.

I hear traveling men say every

day that they avoid Hickory every time they can, and go to Newton, Lenoir and other points in order to get hotel accommodations; they even ask for private houses, which might take them in for the night in order to keep from stopping at our hotels. I have nothing to say specially about the hotels we have. They, no doubt, are doing the best they can, and that should be appreciated; but Hickory needs etterb and larger facilities for a class of travel that does not stop here at all now on that very account. If we expect to grow and keep pace with the times and our neighboring towns, we must have a high class-hotel, and the sooner we get the sooner shall we be able to advance and grow.

What has made Asheville and Charlotte what they are, is the fact of their splendid hotel facilities, their convention halls, and the unselfishness of their citizens. We would do well to emulate them.

It is my ambition just at this time to induce a spirit of progressiveness in Hickory which will lead to a realization not only of an up-to-date hotel, but also to a large convention hall or opera house, a sanatorium, a city hall which will be a credit to the city, a nice passenger depot, a Y. M. C. A. building, and finally a splendid government building. We can get them all if we will work unselfishly and energetically.

The same thing may be said concerning a hydro-electric development. That must come sooner or later, but some sacrifices will have to be made, and functions will have to be obliterated. In my estimation this is the most vital question to be considered, and it is to be hoped that some plans will be arranged by which we can get the development, and enjoy the advantages of cheap power which will make our city and vicinity a manufacturing center.

We have committees to handle such matters, and they should get busy. There is a disposition on our part to shift responsibility, and we are too much occupied with personal affairs to ever accomplish much with the Chamber of Commerce. If the officers and committees cannot give the the business of our organization the time and attention necessary, let them step down and out, and let others take up the work and get busy. If I am not doing my duty, you have a right to inquire it first, then if I do not do it, ask me to step down. I am willing to do it, if it is for the good of the organization. Nor must you expect to carry the whole load on my shoulders. I am only your tool, or rather your mouth-piece, and must ask that you co-operate with me in creating more interest and enthusiasm. We should have more members. We must have them, and I want to impress upon you the importance of paying your quarterage promptly. It is only \$1.50 per quarter. If that is paid promptly by all who are members now, we can accomplish within the next year a great deal for Hickory, and I promise you that I shall give you my very best efforts, provided they are appreciated and desired.

I have several matters in hand now, which if accomplished, means much for us. I am beginning to receive a number of inquiries about our town, and think I shall be able to induce a number of enterprising citizens to locate here within the next few months, some of them men of means.

The 15,000 folders which we have just had printed meets with great favor, and will be the means of advertising Hickory, I ask that all members and others who expect to be members of the Chamber of Commerce, use these

to enclose in their correspondence, but use them judiciously. I have a good supply of them, and will be pleased to furnish all members with them. If you are not a member, you should be, and I would like to have the names of any that want to join.

Let's pull for Hickory. It is a great place if we would only wake up, and put our shoulders to the wheel. Let us all adopt the slogan, "GREATER HICKORY."

I will add that I am invited to attend the meeting of the Southern Secretaries' Association at Atlanta next spring, which in turn is invited to New Orleans to take an excursion to the Canal Zone on a special steamer as the guests of the Progressive Union of New Orleans. The object of this excursion is to investigate the commercial trait of the Canal Zone, which is quite an item and of great importance to the South especially. W. L. GILBERT.

Pointers for Merchants.

A general merchant, who began in a very small way a few years ago, and is now doing a business of \$250,000 a year, gives the following "pointers" for success in retail merchandising.

"He must advertise all the time.

"Change your advertisements every issue.

"Keep something new before the farmers all of the time.

"When the ladies come in, have a place for them to rest and care for their babies.

"In warm weather have a tank of ice water handy.

"Sell for as near cash as you can. Don't be afraid to push a man for money.

"Do not cater to the loafing element,—there is no money in them.

"Learn to say "no" with a smile.

"Do not overbuy. Buy in small quantities for cash, and often.

"Keep your floors and windows clean.

"Keep your shelves full."—Merchants' Journal.

MUST BELIEVE IT

When Well-Known Hickory People Tell It So Plainly.

When public endorsement is made by a representative citizen of Hickory, the proof is positive. You must believe it. Read this testimony. Every backache sufferer, every man, woman and child with any kidney trouble will find profit in the reading.

Mrs. Caroline Hodges, living at Eleventh Street, Hickory, N. C., says: "I have no hesitancy in recommending Doan's Kidney Pills, as I used them with the most satisfactory results. I procured them at Menzie's Drug Co., when suffering from severe pains across the small of my back accompanied by headaches and other symptoms of kidney trouble, and they gave me prompt relief. I hope other sufferers of kidney trouble will give Doan's Kidney Pills a trial as I am confident the results received will be most gratifying."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

Sorry He Spoke.

"Shop early," advised the husband.

"With what," inquired the wife.

Then silence reigned.

A RELIGIOUS AUTHOR'S STATEMENT.

"For several years I was afflicted with kidney troubles, and last winter I was suddenly stricken with a severe pain in my kidneys, and was confined to bed eight days, unable to get up without assistance. My urine contained a thick white sediment, and I passed some frequently day and night. I commenced taking Foley's Kidney Remedy, and the pain gradually abated and finally ceased, and my urine became normal. I cheerfully recommend Foley's Kidney Remedy." All persons likewise afflicted can get this remedy at W. S. Martin & Co.

United States Sends Aid.

The United States supply ship, Celtic, sailed from New York harbor on Dec. 31. This vessel was loaded with supplies for the returning battleships, and was to have sailed on this date to meet the fleet, but, without changing a single item of her cargo, she sailed for Messina where she will unload her cargo for the benefit of the earthquake sufferers. She has on board a million and a half of navy rations which will go far towards relieving the intense sufferings of the unfortunates.

How to Succeed.

There was a fellow in our town, and he was far from wise; He tried to run a store one time, and he didn't advertise.

No profits came his way at all, His store soon failed, instead. Then he went out and blamed the town; He said it was dead.

Wouldn't a cargo of chocolate fudge satisfy Queen Wilhelmina?

How many times have you written 1908 since Friday morning?

When Beach Hargis gave his \$25,000 bond, that was probably the last of the case.

The Durham Herald remarks: "You may be able to get it now, but not in such variety."

You have not yet broken the resolution not to enter a saloon in the State this year, have you?

Many little lives have been saved by Foley's Honey and Tar, for coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough. It is the only safe remedy for infants and children, as it contains no opiates or other narcotic drugs, and children like Foley's Honey and Tar. Careful mothers keep a bottle in the house. Refuse substitutes. Ask for Foley's Honey and Tar at W. S. Martin & Co.

Georgia sends greetings to Carolina. We hope she will not also send dissections for working the blind tiger.

To feel strong, have good appetite and digestion, sleep soundly and enjoy life, use Burdock Electric Bitters, the great system tonic and builder.

Mr. Cannon is making a noise like a man who is ready to do it again as soon as the danger is over.

SIMPLE REMEDY FOR LA GRIPPE.

Racking la grippe coughs that may develop into pneumonia over night are quickly cured by Foley's Honey and Tar. The sore and inflamed lungs are healed and strengthened, and a dangerous condition is quickly averted. Take only Foley's Honey and Tar in the yellow package. For sale at W. S. Martin & Co.

Grover Cleveland used to have Congress on his hands. Theodore Roosevelt has Congress on his neck.

Always have Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup handy, especially for the children. It tastes nearly as good as maple sugar. It cures the cold by gently moving the bowels through its laxative principle, and at the same time it is soothing for throat irritation, thereby stopping the cough. Sold by C. M. Shuford and W. S. Martin & Co.

Now that Reuf has been convicted, the desire to know how he pronounced his name will rapidly abate.

When the baby is cross, and has you worried and worn out, you will find that a little Cascasweet, the well-known remedy for babies and children, will quiet the little one in a short time. The ingredients are printed plainly on the bottle. Contains no opiates. For sale by C. M. Shuford and W. S. Martin & Co.

Mr. Croker wants to live 100 years. He made a mighty poor start by criticising woman suffering.

For health and happiness—DeWitt's Little Early Risers—small, gentle, easy, pleasant liver pills the best made. Sold by C. M. Shuford and W. S. Martin & Co.