

# The Lincoln Courier.

VOL. VI.

LINCOLN, N. C., FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1892.

NO. 3

**Professional Cards.**  
**Dr. G. F. Gostner,**  
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,  
Offers his professional services to the citizens of Lincoln and surrounding country. Office at his residence adjoining Lincoln Hotel. All calls promptly attended to.  
Aug. 7, 1891 1y

**J. W. SAIN, M. D.,**  
Has located at Lincoln and offers his services as physician to the citizens of Lincoln and surrounding country.  
Will be found at night at the residence of B. C. Wood  
March 27, 1891 1y

**Bartlett Shipp,**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
LINCOLN, N. C.  
Jan. 9, 1891. 1y

**Finly & Wetmor,**  
ATTYS. AT LAW,  
LINCOLN, N. C.  
Will practice in Lincoln and surrounding counties.  
All business put into our hands will be promptly attended to.  
April 18, 1890. 1y.

**Dr. W. A. PESSLEY,**  
SURGEON DENTIST.  
Terms—CASH.  
OFFICE IN COBB BUILDING, MAIN ST.,  
LINCOLN, N. C.  
July 11, 1890. 1y

**Dr. A. W. Alexander**  
DENTIST,  
LINCOLN, N. C.  
Cocaine used for painless extracting teeth. With THIRTY YEARS experience. Satisfaction given in all operations. Terms cash and moderate.  
Jan 23 '91 1y

**GO TO**  
**BARBER SHOP.**  
Newly fitted up. Work always neatly done. Customers politely waited upon. Everything pertaining to the tonsorial art is done according to latest styles.  
HENRY TAYLOR, Barber.

J. D. MOORE, President.

L. L. JENKINS, Cashier.

No. 4377.

## FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF GASTONIA, N. C.

Capital ..... \$50,000  
Surplus ..... 2,750  
Average Deposits ..... 40,000

COMMENCED BUSINESS AUGUST 1, 1890.

**Solicits Accounts of Individuals, Firms and Corporations.**

**Interest Paid on Time Deposits.**

**Guarantees to Patrons Every Accommodation Consistent with Conservative Banking.**

**BANKING HOURS**..... 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.  
Dec 11 '91

# CASTORIA

for Infants and Children.

"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me." H. A. ASCHEB, M. D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Castoria cures Colic, Constipation, Four Stomach, Diarrhoea, Eruption, Kills Worms, gives sleep, and promotes digestion. Without injurious medication.

"The use of 'Castoria' is so universal and its merits so well known that it seems a work of supererogation to endorse it. Few are the intelligent families who do not keep 'Castoria' within easy reach."

"For several years I have recommended your 'Castoria,' and shall always continue to do so as it has invariably produced beneficial results."  
EWIN F. PARDEE, M. D., "The Winthrop," 125th Street and 7th Ave., New York City.

THE CHESTER COMPANY, 77 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK.

Itch on human and horses and all animals cured in 30 minutes by Woolford's Sanitary Lotion. This never fails. Sold by J. M. Lawing Druggist Lincoln, N. C.

### A Threat.

Look out, friends! By keeping Alliancemen out of the primaries, and by other tricks, a strong effort is being made to nominate a man for Governor of North Carolina, who has never done anything for the farmers and has done much against them. If these tricks are successful the *Progressive Farmer* will fight that man to the last. His name is T. M. Holt. If he is nominated an independent will be the result and he will be beaten. Remember that.—*Progressive Farmer*.  
The above is the threat of a Third party organ to a Democratic convention. It has for some time assumed to dictate the policy of the Democratic party in this State, and while it carried the Alliance banner its influence was potential, but since it has substituted for that honest flag the mongrel ensign of a Third party, both Alliance and non-Alliance Democrats understand that its aim is to disrupt their party, and render probable a return to Republican rule. No man in this State will be frightened from the post of duty by mere assertions and threats so palpably without foundation in fact as not to merit a serious reply. Who ever heard before that Thomas M. Holt was unfriendly to the farmers? Why, he is one of the best farmers in the State, and is thoroughly identified with the farming interest!—*State Chronicle*.

**HAPPY HOOSIERS.**  
Wm. Timmons, Postmaster of Idaville, Ind., writes: "Electric Bitters has done more for me than all other medicines combined, for that bad feeling arising from Kidney and Liver trouble." John Leslie, farmer and stockman, of same place, says: "Find Electric Bitters to be the best Kidney and Liver medicine, made me feel like a new man." J. W. Gardner, hardware merchant, same town, says: "Electric Bitters is just the thing for a man who is all run down and don't care whether he lives or dies; he found new strength, good appetite and felt just like he had a new lease on life. Only 50 cents a bottle, at Dr. J. M. Lawing's Drug Store."

### That Irrepressible Boy.

"You didn't bring your wife with you, Mr. Jones?" said the small boy of the house, addressing the guest.  
No, my boy. Would you like to see her?  
Yes. Leastways, I would like to see her thumb?  
"See her thumb? What do you want to see her thumb for?"  
"Well, ma says your wife keeps you under her thumb, and I'd like to see it, for it must be a pretty big one."

## BORDER BANDITS.

BY FELIX L. OSWALD.

As a haunt of crime, the sium-labyrinth or a populous city is rivaled by the wilderness of a thinly settled border land. For purposes of bolder enterprise, there is even a decided preponderance of advantages in favor of the wilderness; and during the carnival of chaos that followed the downfall of the Mexican Empire, the border-continues of Texas were infested by whole regiments of profession bandits—"patriots," as they called themselves, when they used their pistols only to "Jeffray expenses," as the Salvation Army would say. In Cameron county, near the mouth of the Rio Grande, the firm of Corina & Bros. was doing a wholesale business in patriotism of that sort, till one day the senior member of the syndicate was arrested on a charge of having annexed the horse of the widow W—, an American lady who has been visiting on the Mexican side of the river.

The next day a representative of the Matamoros *Rancheros* called at the headquarters of the firm.  
"It's an infernal piece of black-mail," cried Cortina, junior; "but mark my word, we'll make them sorry for it. There's some mistake about it, sure," he added after a while. "If that had been my brother, he would have kidnapped the old lady, too."

By a similar line of logic a Mexican expert would probably arrive at the conclusion that no countryman of his could have had a hand in the recent Texas train-robberies. On the first occasion the passengers were not molested at all. The last time they were let off with an optional contribution. The latter transaction, would especially, have struck a Spanish-American critic as wholly unprofessional. A wealthy candidate for the presidency of the republic might content himself with stopping a train for the purpose of removing a political rival; but a specialist should have business tact enough to know that only a thorough and impartial search can do justice to all parties concerned. A single deviation from that rule once cost Colonel Jeaningros the prize of a perilous expedition for the capture of an army chest, which a disguised paymaster managed to smuggle through in a shabby-looking tool-box.

When the first regular train was put on the trans-Cordilleras line from Vera Cruz to Puebla, the Rio Grande professionals sent down a commissary, who scrutinized the phenomenon with a glad surprise, at once appreciating the business advantages of the novel invention. Stage-coaches could take to the woods, or change their route altogether (the Matamoros *diligencia* having thus repeatedly dodged the best-laid traps); but the pre-ordained track of a train promised to raise interception to the rank of an exact science. A picket band of veterans, with a detachment of trained spies, was at once dispatched to the new Eldorado, and from November, 1869, till May, 1870, the passenger train of the main line was robbed about once a week—by some queer coincidence, nearly always on "crowd days," no matter how cunningly the depot agents might have smuggled in their passengers in the bustle of miscellaneous traffic. It seemed clear that the "patriots" must have inside aid, but a constant change of employees evidently failed to diminish their sources of information. Railway patrols were usually unavailing. A force of mounted rangers scoured the country in every direction south and north of the track, but that tracked through a rougher mountain country than the eastern division of the Denver and Utah railroad. Regular train-guards would have strained the resources of the impetuous company, but had at last to be adopted as a lesser evil.

Uniformed beef-eaters, to the number of twenty and upward, were then hauled to and fro on the line of the most dangerous section (from

Paso del Macho to Amozot) and local toughs were collared by scores; but the genius of the Rio Grande committee rose superior to all difficulties. Twice the west-bound train was robbed in the open prairie, within gunshot of a regular depot. Twice the track of the lower section was obstructed in a way that prevented the two trains from meeting at the dinner-station, thus putting the west-bound passengers at the mercy of the bandits; and on one occasion the car containing the beef-eaters was uncoupled and left on the track, while the rest of the train pursued its way in charge of an improvised conductor.

But as the excess of all evils tends to suggest the means of relief, the afflicted officials at last bethought themseves of exorcising their demons with the aid of Beelzebub, by invoking the assistance of the "Contra-Guerillas"—mounted detectives, as we might define them—a quasi-organized body of desperadoes, subsidized by the general government, and employed chiefly in the neighborhood of the Indian reservations south and southwest of the Rio Grande. The leader of these rangers was at that time engaged in guarding the mines of Chihuahua, which had been repeatedly raided by the moss-troopers of Pancho Parras, but after meeting the agent of the railway commissioners he had a private interview with his ablest lieutenant, a noted partisan of the Juarists, and a ready champion of every desperate enterprise. "The Parson" (El Cura), as his troopers called him in allusion to his favorite disguise, at once closed the bargain, but stipulated for absolute secrecy and *cartes blanches* privileges for all preparatory arrangements.

Three days after, El Cura and a select posse of his sharpshooters embarked for Vera Cruz under various disguises. During the first day of May, 1870, the spies of the bandits had no reason for special apprehension. A new brakeman or two were added to the force of the freight department. A baggage-master of the passenger-train was recommended for a position in the repair-shops, and his successor was temporarily accommodated with several assistants; a new huckster appeared on the platform of the dinner-station, and seemed busy enough to justify the engagement of two partners; but the trains came and went as usual; the beef-eaters were again outwitted, and on the 18th of May a train was for the last time stopped in the open *vega* and ransacked from end to end.

That outrage furnished a welcome pretext, and on the next day the train started out with a howitzer conspicuously mounted on the weather-deck of the tender. On that isolated redoubt the commissioners might as well have mounted a wash-tub, for in the absence of an ordnance guard there was nothing to prevent the robbers from collaring the engineer and pitching his battery overboard; but the arrangement served as an excellent blind; an innovation of some sort had been visibly adopted, and the patriots might be expected to take their measures accordingly. These measures were simplified by another change of programme, equally futile. The old train-guards (the beef-eaters) were transferred to an open platform car, drawn by a special engine, and following the regular train at a distance varying from a hundred yards to a mile, for nothing seemed now easier than to run the train train ahead, and detain the train-guard by some sudden obstruction.

Traffic of some sort or other seemed, nevertheless, to increase, for the passenger-trains now began to carry double baggage cars and modified their schedule, as if their overload made it difficult to run the up-grades on time. The rear-guard, too, then moderated their speed—so much, indeed, that they often remained two full miles behind. For nearly a week the little howitzer rode triumphant, and the bandits themselves seemed to enjoy the absurdity of the phenomenon; but on the long run there was

no resisting that combination of business chances, and on the 26th of the month a big tree was suddenly dropped athwart the track of the rear train just when the front section was making good time on a down-grade. At the end of that grade a red flag was fluttering in the breeze, a blockade hove in sight, and the train came to a full stop.

"O Dios! Ladrones! Bandits!" Yes, there they came. Twenty, thirty of them, pistol in hand, rose from behind the obstruction or emerged from the shade of concealing thickets.  
"Alaco! Out and down, all of you!" came the fully expected command, which the trainmen obeyed with perhaps rather suspicious alacrity, for they were ordered to halt and advance one at a time.  
"What's in that third car?"  
"Baggage shall we open it?"  
"Never mind now. Out with your boodle! Turn out your pockets, and be quick about it!"  
The search began.  
"Hurry up! Here comes the train-guard!" yelled out the brakemen.

"Who was that? Hush up, you Innate!" growled the leader, not, though, without an uneasy glance to the rear.  
"Here, my men, stand together here!" fearing that some of his enthralls might take the alarm and run. "This way, all of you!"

Just up to programme, for the next second the door of car No. 3 began to gape, and a moment after a crash of musketry turned the scene into a babel of yells and confusion, and before the robbers could answer the shrieked commands of their leader, twelve of them were rolling in their blood, while the rest rushed to the woods in wild, uncontrollable terror. Volley after volley sent forth its storm of balls and slugs; and when the beef-eaters at last did come, though at a double quick, the work was done, and El Cura, notebook in hand, was standing on the trap, while his men were dragging up the corpses or emptying their pistols into the brains of some crippled wretch.

From that day the security of the Mexican railroads was equalled only by the popularity of their securities, till the line of the Mexican Central approached the Rio Grande and tempted the border bandits to muster their reserve-forces—their home-guards, as it were—and renew the campaign on the scene of their historic triumphs. Robberies then became chronic again, and for nearly a year the interception of every rich cargo proved that the patriots had once more established a thorough system of espionage. In stress of contracts the government at last massed all its available troops along the imperiled route; the United States garrison in Southern Texas was instructed to co-operate, and an international fox-hunt of two years ultimately abated the nuisance.

Train robberies have since been reduced to a rational minimum of half a dozen per year, and more than once the cavaliers have been routed by the timely arrival of a patrol; but time permitting, they rarely fail to indemnify themselves by an exhaustive search. They rip up bundles and satchels, empty the contents of every trunk, make passengers strip to the skin, and in doubtful cases take their baggage along, to search it in the leisure of their bivouac. Their ferreters seem to have developed a sixth sense for the discovery of hidden valuables; but for all that, a little Jew from Brownsville, Texas, once managed to baffle their vigilance. Just as they entered his car, he turned in his seat, and with an appearance of anxious despatch proceeded to squeeze a small satchel behind the shutters of the next window. They could not help noticing his maneuver, and promptly ordered him to stand up and fold his hands. When they tackled him in due course, their spokesman at once turned to that window.

"What's this here? Tried to beat us, you poor sinner, did you? *Cogate*—hold him—that's it: now let me see that bag! Aha! bank-notes. I thought so."

"Oh, don't don't," wailed the poor sinner; that's my children's money. They will starve! they will starve! they will die! my poor little girls!  
"Send 'em this way, and we'll take care of them," was the brutal reply. "How much is that, anyhow?"

"Oh, Lord, Senor, all I have in the world—twelve thousand dollars in American money—twelve thousand and two hundred dollars, I think—"

"Is that so?" fingering over the notes, "Yes, more or less. Let's see your pocket, now." A handful of silver was turned out, bit by bit—some five dollars, perhaps.

"Oh, Senor, you are surely not going to take my last penny?"  
"D—n it, no!" broke in the leader. "Let him keep his nickels and his watch, too. This will do us," shoving the roll into his grip-sack. "Good boy!" with a slap on his back. "Next!"—with a complacent grin, which a week or so later was probably seen on the other side of his face, when he ascertained that those "American bank-notes" had been issued by the Confederate Government.

A package of less irredeemable securities had, in the meanwhile, been sticking safely under the cushion of the wily passenger, who had taken that satchel along for the special purpose of diverting attention from the main stake.

### Put Only Alliancemen on Guard.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., May 4.—The conference of Farmers' Alliance presidents and other officials of Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Texas, Louisiana, Virginia, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, West Virginia and Florida adjourned to-day after issuing a long address to the order, in which these injunctions are made:  
First—Let a spirit of harmony prevail and let unity of action be the rule. Let none condemn a brother who stands squarely by the principles of the order or speak in any way disparagingly or disrespectfully of him because they may differ as to the best methods of enforcing our principles. Grant to every brother honesty of purpose.

Second—Let fealty to the principles of the order be the true and only test of membership, and let those who value their party affiliations more than their Alliance obligations be informed that their order demands strict and full devotion to its principles, and leaves each to his own choice as to methods, but that the method can in no case contravene the principle, and therefore all who affiliate should accept as supreme the principles of the order.

Third—Every member who takes the obligation always administered to those who join is first told as a condition precedent, and upon which all that is to follow is predicated: "that it shall in no way interfere with your political or religious liberty." Therefore this order as such: or any of its branches, has no right to take any partisan, political or sectarian religious action. We urge upon the brotherhood of all reform organizations and all good citizens who believe, as we do, that the enactment of laws based upon our demands is for the preservation of the free institutions of our government and to rescue the masses from degraded servitude; that they use all honorable means to secure the election of men to our national legislative council who stand pledged to work for the passage of such laws.

Finally, brethren, remember that devotion to our principles can only be emphasized and our influence made effective by voting for our demands at the ballot-box.  
While a majority of those in conference were in favor of political action through the People's party, a minority opposed any interference with a member's right to vote any ticket he prefers.

**GUARANTEED CURE.**  
We authorize our advertised druggist to sell you Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption, coughs and colds, upon this condition. If you are afflicted with La Grippe and will use this remedy according to directions, giving it a fair trial, and experience no benefit, you may return the bottle and have your money refunded. We make this offer because of the wonderful success of Dr. King's New Discovery during last season's epidemic. Have heard of no case in which it failed. Try it. Trial bottles free at J. M. Lawing's drugstore. Large size 50c and \$1.00.

### The Proposed Government Warehouses.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 9.—Some of the Farmers' Alliance men in the South and west who are advocating the warehouse system for adoption by the government have been met with the argument that it is not the province of the government to build warehouses for any class of producers, and to this the advocates of the warehouse system have replied that if the government can build warehouses in which to store whiskey there ought to be no reasonable objection to the construction of warehouses for grain and other products of the farmers. Senator Cockrell, who believed that this notion was erroneous, sent an inquiry to Internal Revenue Commissioner Mason, and he received the following reply:

"OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 7, 1892  
"To Hon. F. M. Cockrell, United States Senate:

"Sir—I am in receipt of your letter asking whether the United States Government, out of government funds, has built any warehouses for the storage of liquors or distilled spirits, and if so the number of such warehouses, when built, the cost thereof, and under what authority of law they were constructed. If not, to explain who built bonded warehouses for distillers, how they are bonded, and upon what terms the spirits are stored therein and the revenue collected thereon. In reply, I would say the United States does not now build and has never built any warehouses for distillers for the storage of their liquors and distilled spirits. There is no law authorizing the expenditure of public money for this purpose. All distilled spirits, with the exception of brandy distilled from apples, peaches, or grapes, are deposited in a warehouse provided by the distiller himself. Section 3271 of the Revised Statutes provides that every distiller shall provide at his own expense a warehouse, to be situated on and to constitute a part of his distillery premises, and to be used only for the storage of distilled spirits of his own manufacture until the tax thereon shall have been paid.  
"Distillers of brandy from apples, peaches, and grapes exclusively are exempt from the provisions of this statute. These distillers either pay the tax upon the spirits as soon as produced or the spirits are deposited in a bonded warehouse, erected by a private individual and stored there until the tax becomes due, but in no case is the government liable for any expenses incurred in the storing of distilled spirits of any kind.  
"Before a distiller commences to operate a distillery he executes a bond, the condition of which, among other things, is for the payment of a tax upon the spirits produced by him. When these spirits are placed in the warehouse which he is required to provide an additional bond, is executed for the payment of the tax upon said spirits. In addition to this the distillery premises and apparatus are liable for the tax, and the government has a first lien upon the spirits themselves for the tax due thereon.  
"Until this tax is paid the government has the custody of the spirits by its officers in these bonded warehouses. At the expiration of three years, or sooner if the owner desires possession and use of the spirits, the internal revenue tax of 90 cents a gal on must be paid.

Very respectfully,  
"JOHN W. MASON,  
Commissioner.

**Labor Saving Machines.**  
The reporter had been interviewing the walking delegate at considerable length. Finally he inquired: "Do you believe in labor-saving machines?"  
"No, sir," was the emphatic response.  
"Not even in the domain of the household?"  
The walking delegate hesitated a moment for thought.  
"Well," he said at last, "I suppose a man might have a wife."—*Detroit Free Press*.