

ODD 'PHONE TROUBLES.

Inspector's Amusing Experiences in the Country—A Woman's Thirst for Gossip.

The introduction of telephones into the rural districts has produced many amusing as well as irritating incidents...

During the summer and fall I assisted in the installation of several circuits and looked after them for some time following...

Shortly after it had been put in operation complaints as to inability to get connection with a part of the line came in...

Very convenient, I remarked. Yes, she said, it is a comfort to hear what the neighbors are saying...

I then remonstrated with them for this interruption of business, and they became indignant. They said they paid for the telephone and had a right to use it as they pleased...

The curiosity which possessed the people of this line was astonishing. Calling up a number and listening intently, you could hear the click, click of several instruments as their neighbors cut in to hear what was said...

Two wagging young farmers, aware of the fact that several persons were listening, shamelessly talked of a mythical incident prepared for the purpose, and the result was to set the whole neighborhood by the ears and almost produce a slander suit.

One day I received a complaint that it was impossible to get a response from a certain subscriber, so I rode out to visit him. I found the telephone bell muffled with a handkerchief so that it emitted no sound.

You see, said the mistress of the house, the noise of that bell wakes the baby, so I fast fixed it that way. When I went to talk to any one I take out the handkerchief.

But, I remonstrated, when any one wants to talk to you he can't attract your attention. Sure enough, she said, but I never thought of that.

A break in the line occurred one day and after considerable search I found it at a crossing, where it had been broken by a farmer with a load of hay. He had repaired the break satisfactorily to himself by tying the ends of the broken wire together with binding twine.

Among other things it contained was a harmonica, which was placed so as to connect the binding posts of the instrument. The metal sides of the harp made a conductor which did the business.

As people grew accustomed to the instrument and ceased to be afraid of it troubles frequently arose through the curiosity of the children, who loosened screws and drew out the wires. On one occasion the wire was filed through by a couple of boys, who lapped as to the size of the hole contained, they being under the

Impression that the wire was hollow.

How silly, I remarked, when the cause of the break was explained to me. How, asked one of the boys, can you talk through a wire unless it is hollow?

The use of the system for some time produced rows among people. On these circuits as many as twenty subscribers used the same wire, and each seemed to think he had the right of way...

It is not that country people are so much different from city residents, but the conditions on country and city systems are different. Each subscriber being isolated has fewer opportunities for discussing the telephone and must have time to learn the methods and to ascertain his own rights and the rights of others.

The older rural lines there is probably less trouble than in the towns, but until experience has brought its results the rural telephone inspectors will have a hard time.

Very convenient, I remarked. Yes, she said, it is a comfort to hear what the neighbors are saying, and I can go right on with my work at the same time.

I then remonstrated with them for this interruption of business, and they became indignant. They said they paid for the telephone and had a right to use it as they pleased.

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A Heavy Tragedy.

Visitors from Burlington brought the intelligence to Charlotte yesterday of a very tragic occurrence that took place in that city a few days ago.

In a trial in a magistrate's court Mr. Daniel Hugh McLean, secretary and treasurer of the North Carolina Railway and a well known lawyer, and Mr. Carroll of Burlington, also a lawyer, accused each other of unprofessional conduct.

A printer by the name of Haggston, who bears some reputation for being a wag, told both Mr. McLean and Mr. Carroll that each had threatened to shoot the other on sight.

A few days later Mr. McLean and Mr. Carroll, suddenly turning a corner, confronted each other. Mr. McLean reached for his hip pocket and said: 'Sir, if you proceed another step I will ridle you with bullets.'

I perceive, said Mr. Carroll, that you are armed. But if you move on me, sir, you are a dead man.

Horrified citizens and a policeman interfered, and the belligerents were searched as a precautionary measure. Both were unarmed.

James Hollaway, Democrat, was recently appointed carrier on a rural free delivery route from Louisburg, having won the appointment through a civil service examination.

He alleged that Hollaway was an offensive partisan and as Democratic registrar had denied duly qualified Republicans the right to exercise the elective franchise.

Superintendent Machen, of the rural delivery service, very properly decided that constitutional questions did not enter into the qualifications of a mail carrier and Hollaway got the job.

Accomplished. Mrs. Gump—Is Miss Satcher much of a dressmaker? Mrs. Piping—Splendid. She never has to make a dress over more than two or three times.

Too Inquisitive. Wife—Such a dream as I had last night, dear. Husband—May I hear about it? Well, yes, I dreamed that I was in a great establishment where they sold husbands. There were beautiful ones in glass cases and marked at fearful prices, and others were sold at less figures.

Domestic Economy. Poor Man—Well, did you get that book telling all about how to economize in the kitchen? Wife—Yes, I've got it. Poor Man—That's good. What does it say? Wife—It's full of recipes telling how to utilize cold roast turkey—but we haven't the turkey.

Taking all Safe. Yes, said the Billyville widow, I want to give John a good, heavy monument. Of course. Nothing less than three tons will ever hold him down. I want to be quite sure of him.

CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of Dr. H. Fletcher.

What is CASTORIA? Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrup. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance.

GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS Bears the Signature of Dr. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought In Use For Over 30 Years.

YOUR RESIDENCE

May not contain the latest style Furniture that you would like for both beauty and use, and, if not, it will pay you to examine our line of

China Closets, Side-boards, Extension Tables, Chairs, Suits and Single Pieces of all kinds. We can make you prices on these goods that will interest you.

T. P. DILLON, Furniture Dealer and Funeral Director. Store Phone 7; Residence Phone 54.

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Special Designs in Marble and Granite Monuments, Tombstones, Monuments, Iron Fences, Etc.

We have just received our first car of Marble, consisting of a real nice line of finished Monuments, Tablets, etc., and cordially invite anyone in need of work in our line to call around at our yard and we will take pleasure in quoting prices.

Remember we guarantee entire satisfaction and have come among you to stay, and all we ask is to be sure and see us before you buy.

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who have land to sell should list it with us and thereby have it advertised in the newspapers free of cost. Buying and selling land is our business and we can handle property which you may have been unsuccessful with yourself.

Union Real Estate Co. Office: Armfield & Williams. E. C. WILLIAMS, Manager.

LOST!

Last week between Monday morning and Saturday night, one golden opportunity to visit our store. You were the loser. REWARD! If you will visit our store this week and inspect our lines you will be rewarded.

SIKES & WINCHESTER.

A Little Side Talk on Watches and Jewelry

We have just received a new supply of watches and jewelry and those wanting to purchase a watch, now is the time. We want you to compare the prices we name below and see if we do not save you from 20 to 25 per cent.

18 size 7 jewel Elgin in solid nickel case at \$4.98 18 size 7 jewel Seth Thomas in solid nickel case at \$3.98 18 size 7 jewel Elgin in 20 year Fay's case at \$9.75

We also have other sizes at prices that will save you money. We have in stock the celebrated 1-10th gold chain at a big reduction. Don't fail to give us a call.

The W. J. Rudge Co.

All Aboard for Good Bread.

Many a well-meant, well-planned attempt at bread-making is wrecked on the shoals of poor flour. Cheap flour is bad flour—its low price is the maker's excuse for the inferiority of his product.

Henderson Roller Mills Company, J. E. HENDERSON, Manager.



WET FEET

make doctor bills; dry feet make happy, comfortable people and saves taking medicine. Lots of sick people around now because they have not bought our Hamilton-Brown.

Battle Axe and Stone Crusher Shoes. This store is noted for good shoe values. Our shoes never fail to give good satisfaction. We have a lot of dry goods and notions that I will sell cheap.

No house in this town has a greater reputation for good shoe values than this store. We have a complete line of Dry Goods, etc. J. Y. DOSTER, AT WINCHESTER'S CORNER.

ASHCRAFT'S Eureka Liniment.

This Liniment will remove spavin, splint, ringbones, and all cartilaginous growths when applied in the earlier stages of the disease. One of the most common lamenesses, however, among horses and mules is sprain of the back tendon, caused by overloading and hard driving.

For chronic scratches Ashcraft's Eureka Liniment is without an equal. Three or four applications will cure this disease in its worst form. Owing to the wonderful antiseptic qualities, the Eureka Liniment should be used in the treatment of all tumors and sores where proud flesh is present.

The English Drug Company. 'Let the GOLD DUST twins do your work'

Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic has stood the test 25 years. Average Annual Sales over One and a Half Million bottles. Does this record of merit appeal to you? No Cure, No Pay. 50c.

The Reason. She—He says he loves me, yet he has only known me two days. Her Friend—Well, perhaps that's the reason, dear.

You know What You are Taking When you take Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic because the formula is plainly printed on every bottle showing that it is simply Iron and Quinine in a tasteless form. No Cure, No Pay. 50c.

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R. W. LEMMOND, Attorney-at-Law, will practice in all the State and United States Courts.

People's Bank OF MONROE, N. C. Solicits your account and banking business. We guarantee ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

M. L. FLOW, Commissioner of Deeds for South Carolina, in North Carolina; also a Justice of the Peace for Union County, and Notary Public for North Carolina.

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Will be at Mars Hill, N. C., on first and third Mondays of each month, and at Matthews on second and fourth Mondays. Phone 232