

The Progressive Farmer of Raleigh comes to us this week as "the old paper with new vigor, new capital and a stronger staff," announcing that the paper has been bought from Mr. J. W. Denmark, who owned it after it went out of the possession of Col. Polk's immediate family. The new purchasers are a stock company, composed of Dr. B. W. Kilgore of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Dr. C. W. Burkett of the A. and M. College, Mr. J. W. Bailey of Raleigh and Mr. T. B. Parker, secretary and business agent of the Farmers' State Alliance, and Mr. Clarence H. Poe, who is editor and manager with Dr. Kilgore and Prof. Burkett as agriculture editors. This change will give the bright young editor, Mr. Poe, who has made the Farmer a splendid paper, a better hand, and means that the State is to have an up-to-date farm paper which will seek to help and stimulate farmers and farm life and not exploit them. We can give the new company no better evidence of our good will than to say that we would be rejoiced to see the Progressive Farmer going into every farmer's home in Union county, and the others, too, for that matter.

The beginning of the new year finds Russia and Japan more ready than ever to unleash the dogs of war. The sympathy of this country is with Japan, the plucky little nation of the rising sun country that has adopted European and American civilization and dares for justice face the fearful menaces of Russia the terrible. The struggle is no mere contention over boundary lines or spheres of influence, but on the part of Japan, for the first and fundamental right of man, the right to grow. The population of the island is crowded to the point of suffocation. There is no outlet except in Corea, the nearest mainland across the water, and Manchuria, the undeveloped northern province of China. With an insatiable land greed whetted by centuries of unbridled aggression, Great Russia would keep the Japanese out of these lands—keep them stifled up in their little island, not because Russia herself has any such need, but because of greed for trade. The diplomats and others who profess to know, tell us that the storm may break at any time. When it does, God pity the Japanese.

It is the opinion of leading business men of Monroe that this town must have an adequate and useful organization for the promotion of our material development. Some gentlemen are engaged in formulating a plan for such an organization, which is to be merely suggestive of a working organization. This will soon be presented as a basis for getting together and talking over the matter in a business like way, and arriving at such conclusions as the members may, in their wisdom, deem best. The town which goes forward does so by united effort. We can, and naturally will, have our little differences among ourselves, but when a question affecting us all arises, as the development of our town does, we can easily stand together and present a solid front.

The features of the high price of cotton have been the fact that the farmers who make the cotton have been more benefited by the rise this year than ever before, and that the Southern people who gamble in futures did, up until the break of last week, make more money than ever before. All Southern people are bulls on the market, and the continued and steady rise made it easy for them to make money. But much of this has already been lost and it is pretty certain that all of it and more, too, will eventually go back to New York.

The catastrophe in Chicago last Wednesday afternoon was horrible beyond the power of words to express. The mayor of the city has ordered every theatre in the place to be closed because their means of fire protection are inadequate. This looks something like locking the stable after the horse has gone, but it will nevertheless serve a good purpose.

Congratulations.

Mr. John H. Cullom, editor of the Garland, Texas, News, has written a letter of congratulations to the manufacturers of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as follows: "Sixteen years ago when our first child was a baby he was subject to croupy spells and we would be very uneasy about him. We began using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in 1889, and finding it such a reliable remedy for colds and croup, we have never been without it in the house since that time. We have five children and have given it to all of them with good results. One good feature of this remedy is that it is not disagreeable to take and our babies really like it. Another is that it is not dangerous and there is no risk from giving an overdose. I congratulate you upon the success of your remedy. For sale by Dr. S. J. Welsh and C. N. Simpson, Jr.

Sewing Machines, best and cheapest, at the Monroe Furniture Company's.

Some Contributions.

The communications and contributions that a newspaper gets in the run of a week are something to give the spice of variety to even the most craving appetite for change. It is so with a small weekly, what must it be with a big daily? The run of contributors to a newspaper are a study. Any man who comes in is likely to leave up his sleeve something he wants published. It may be a piece of old reprint as big as a barn door, or it may be an original bit of stuff firmly believed by the author to be first class poetry but with the measure as uncertain as the movement of a Christmas jag. And there is also the man who has copied, without regard to punctuation or capital letters, a learned dissertation on an abstruse subject and offers it as his own. The Journal very highly values its corps of correspondents who send in the news items, and wants them to understand that they are not included in this study. These are a part of the news-gathering force of the paper.

Apparently, the hardest thing in the world to get people to understand is the fact that contributors must give their names when they send in their articles. Almost every paper keeps a notice like this standing in its columns, while others continually refer to it. Yet, constantly, people send in contributions without a scratch to indicate who their authors are or whether they are sent in good faith. A ten-page article of this kind came to The Journal this morning. Of course, the writer will spend many an hour in wondering what became of his piece. This thing is a little matter that people will never learn.

The persistent, though unsuccessful contributor, is a rare bird. The Journal has one. Quietly each week he comes in, lays his bit of paper on the table and walks out without a word. The fact that his contributions never get in the paper has never seemed to disturb him a bit—he keeps coming just the same. Why has he been debarred? Well, for two reasons: Many of his pieces are intended to be humorous and the joke hangs fire; the other part of them are a series of vain questions concerning the doctrine of actual hell fire—a question we do not conceive ourselves called upon to assist in settling. But every week the persistent contributor indulges himself in a change, and so, to break the monotony, we print his pieces this time. Here they are, heads and all:

"SPENCE'S FIRST PRINCIPLES.
"Quiz—When does a baby get a milkshake?
"Re Tort—When its mother has a chill.
"AMPLE CATSIE.
"Benedict—Why that care-worn and haunted look?
"Bachelor, shuddering—This is leap year."

A genuine darkey, no matter how much he may steal or how much he may be deprived of his liberty in consequence thereof, never loses his love for religious songs. And about all he wants of the song is a chorus. He supplies the remainder as he sings. They are also great hands to get their songs, no matter how foolish, printed. They'll take an old tune and hang any jumble of words to it that comes to mind. As an example of the stealing-religious-singing darkey, John Hough, heretofore referred to as charter and, apparently, a life member of the chain gang, forces himself to the front. John this week sends us a "Song by Rufus Adams," and says, "please, sir, print this and return to John Hough, care of Capt. B. T. Fletcher." Here is John's "song," and though it may seem foolish to a wise and free generation, there is comfort in it to the chain gang crew as they swing their picks from morn till night, joining lustily in the chorus as one of the leaders makes the lines between:

"Yonder comes Sister Mary,
Wider Martha by her side,
With the gospel broom in her right hand,
Sweeping out the house of God.
CHORUS.
Sweep clean, Mary, sweep clean, Martha;
We are walking in the light of God.
When I can read my titles clear
To mansions in the skies,
I'll bid farewell to every fear
And wipe my weeping eyes.
CHORUS.
Sweep clean, Mary, sweep clean, Martha;
We are walking in the light of God.
Yonder comes Brother Gabriel,
And Brother Michael by his side,
With the gospel broom in his right hand,
Sweeping out the house of God.
CHORUS.
Sweep clean, Mary, sweep clean, Martha;
We are walking in the light of God."

General Longstreet Dead.

A hero of three wars—Mexican, Indian and civil—passed away with the death of Gen. James Longstreet at his home at Gainesville, Ga., last evening. Had he lived until the 21st of this month he would have been 83 years old. He was a native of Edgefield county, S. C., a graduate of West Point, and in the war between the States was successively brigadier general, major general and general commanding the First Corps, Army of Northern Virginia. After the war Gen. Longstreet became a Republican and has held one position and another almost continuously ever since when that party was in power. The highest of these was that of minister to Turkey, and since 1897 he has been commissioner of the Pacific railroads—a sinecure. In the year last mentioned, when about 77 years old, the old gentleman was married. The Southern people never quite forgave him for his politics, but it is to be passed to his credit that he was a brave soldier—whether or not always a skillful commander the historians differ.

Mr. Wm. S. Crane of California, Md., suffered for years from rheumatism and lumbago. He was finally advised to try Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which he did and it effected a complete cure. For sale by Dr. S. J. Welsh and C. N. Simpson, Jr.

Young Men Hitched Themselves Up to a Buggy.

Altan, Jan. 4.—Christmas passed off very quietly. There was no drinking or disorderly conduct. The young people had a few social entertainments.

There were two young men from Lanes Creek, Messrs. B. and R., called on one of the fair young daughters of Buford not long since. One was horseback, the other in a buggy. When the hour of departure came the young men started for their horses, which were hitched in a grove nearby. The horses, seeing the young men, took fright and capered off home some five miles distant. The young men followed on, but not finding their horses, returned for the buggy by stealth, pulled it over creeks, down hill and up-hill, through a piercing wind, for 5 miles before the dawn of day.

The school teachers have all resumed their work.

Mr. W. T. Laney went to Charlotte Friday for mill repairs.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gay of Georgia visited relatives in the Altan neighborhood during the holidays.

Mr. George Belk of the United States army is on a furlough of 30 days, visiting relatives near Hope.

The road overseers of Buford township are requested to meet the supervisors at G. W. Griffin's Monday, the 11th, at 10 o'clock, to receive advice and tools for the better working of the public roads.

Marshallville News.

Marshallville, Jan. 5.—School opened last Tuesday morning with several new students. Miss Minnie Wilbott, the primary teacher, spent a part of last week with her brother at Ansonville.

Mr. J. C. Brooks of Chattanooga, Tenn., came in Tuesday morning on a visit to his parents.

Mr. John Weir of King's Mountain visited friends here last week.

Miss Pattie Lee of Monroe spent Friday with Miss Alma Marsh.

Miss Abernathy of Charlotte visited her sister, Mrs. J. Z. Green, last week.

Messrs. J. H. and W. S. Lee of Monroe spent Friday in town.

Mr. Copeland Massey of Taxahaw, S. C., was here last week.

Dr. Watt Ashcraft was in town Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Green entertain.

Rushing, Dec. 31.—Christmas passed off quietly. No marriages to report and news is scarce.

School suspended one week for Christmas. It opened again Wednesday.

We are glad to state that Mrs. Mary Ann Ashcraft is improving. She is the oldest person in this community, being nearly eighty years of age.

Miss Minnie Perkins of South Carolina is visiting her brother, Dr. Perkins, this week.

Messrs. G. O. Sturdivant and B. L. Rushing spent the holidays at home. Mr. Rushing returned to Columbia Christmas night. He is a teacher in a business college at that place.

We had the pleasure of attending the reception given the correspondents of Our Home Christmas day. On account of the rain the correspondents did not turn out, but dinner was served just the same, and it was certainly a treat to be there. We wish to extend thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Green for their hospitality and wish Our Home much success.

Tomorrow will be New Year's day. Let each one of us resolve to live a better life and do more for suffering humanity next year than we have done this year.

Rock Rest Items.

The Christmas tree on the 24th was highly enjoyed by both young and old. The presents were plentiful and few of the names were forgotten. Santa Claus was on hand and added no little to the enjoyment of the occasion.

The teachers and students of the Rock Rest school intend to observe North Carolina Day in the afternoon of the 15th inst. All patrons of the school are earnestly requested to be present.

Clegg Funderburk, son of Mr. W. E. Funderburk, who lives four miles southeast of Monroe, fell from a house on last Tuesday evening and broke his wrist.

Mr. H. E. Copple and son, Boyd, of Monroe spent last Wednesday with Mr. H. C. Griffin.

Miss Inez Williams of Rock Rest spent the Christmas holidays in Rockingham.

Misses Lois and Mittie Williams, who have been off teaching school, spent Christmas at home.

Miss Brownie Gathings of Rock Rest spent Christmas at Carmel.

Mr. Oscar Moore of Rock Rest spent Christmas with his sister, Mrs. T. B. Goodman of Polkton.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. H. Williams of Monroe spent last Monday with Mr. T. B. Liles of Rock Rest.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry McCollum of Oak Grove spent last Monday visiting relatives at Rock Rest.

Misses Mayme and Gertie Phillips of Matthews spent Christmas visiting relatives at Rock Rest.

Mr. Luther Phillips of Matthews spent last Wednesday visiting friends at Rock Rest.

Mrs. W. A. Benton of Monroe is visiting her father, Mr. T. J. Williams of Rock Rest. A STUDENT.

A Prisoner in Her Own House.

Mrs. W. H. Layha of 1001 Agnes ave., Kansas City, Mo., has for several years been troubled with a severe hoarseness and at times a hard cough, which she says, "would keep me in doors for days. I was prescribed for by physicians with no noticeable results. A friend gave me a part of a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy with instructions to closely follow the directions and I wish to state that after the first day I could notice a decided change for the better, and at this time after using it for two weeks, have no hesitation in saying I realize that I am entirely cured." This remedy is for sale by Dr. S. J. Welsh and C. N. Simpson, Jr.

RELATING TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

[Teachers, non-teachers, students or others interested in the public schools are invited to contribute to this column. School news, personal notes or anything bearing upon the public schools will be welcome.—The Editor.]

Will Teach Agriculture.

The following pupils of Wesley Chapel graded school won first honors for the week ending December 18, 1903:

Seventh grade—Bright Moore, Lena Howie, Vernon Moore.

Sixth grade—Winnie Price, Tom Biggers, Cleveland Moore, Avera Pyle.

Fifth grade—Addie Winchester, Agnes House, Maurice Price, Daisy Helms, Hampton Price, Dannie Pyle, Pearl Price, Jane Pressley.

Fourth grade—Amelia Hawfield, Pattie Worley, Irl Price, Carrie Fincher, Rose Winchester, John Winchester, Amy House.

Third grade—Addie Freeman, Jim Craig.

Second grade—Tom Wolf.

The following were second honor pupils: Clyde Biggers, Lelia Winchester, Joe Dees, Nannie Howie, Gabe Helms.

Our progressive County Superintendent was here on North Carolina Day by invitation. The children enjoyed his visit immensely. They would like to have him come again soon.

It is to the credit of the pupils of the graded school that they memorized all the North Carolina Day program, and that in four days time, Mr. Dalrymple thinks that the children of this community are well equipped mentally.

It is the purpose of the teachers here to teach agriculture as laid

down in the book. Just how popular it will be, is still to be seen, as the farmers out here think men in the college know very little about a farmer's business.

An Incident of the Chicago Fire.

Chicago Dispatch, 1st inst.

A pathetic incident occurred today on the Cottage Grove avenue cable line. This passes within half a square of Rolston's morgue. Late this afternoon a man, haggard and worn, walked up to a Cottage Grove avenue car and climbed aboard, carrying in his arms the body of a little gold-haired girl. The form was partially wrapped in a canvas cloth, but not sufficiently to conceal it. As the father took his seat with the child in his arms, the conductor eyed him doubtfully and then, approaching him, touched him on the shoulder, saying: "I am sorry, but the rules of the company do not permit the carrying of bodies in this manner. I must ask you to leave the car."

Without changing his expression in the slightest; without showing a trace of excitement or irritation, the man rose to his feet, still holding on one arm the body of his child. With his free hand he thrust in the face of the conductor a large revolver and said in a tone which betokened utter weariness and almost lack of interest in the proceedings: "This is my daughter. I have looked for her all of last night and all of today. I have tried in vain to obtain a cab or a carriage and I can get none. I am taking my baby home to her mother and I intend to take her on this car. Now go on."

Other men on the car interceded with the conductor and the latter realizing the situation, gave way and in the crowded car the father sat and carried the corpse of his child to her home.

An Old Favorite

SONG

By Robert Herrick

ROBERT HERRICK, clergyman and poet, called by some critics the best writer of light lyrical verses in English literature, was born in London in 1597 and died in Devonshire in 1634. During the civil war Herrick was deprived of his post of vicar because of his royalist proclivities. He was restored in 1662. Many of Herrick's poems are unusually erotic for a clergyman, and some of them have met with severe criticism. Many of them were published anonymously.

GATHER ye rose-buds as ye may,
Old Time is still a-flying:
And this same flower that smiles to-day
To-morrow will be dying.
The glorious lamp of heaven, the sun,
The higher he's a getting,
The sooner will his race be run,
And nearer he's to setting.

That age is best which is the first,
When youth and blood are warmer;
But being spent, the worse and worst
Time still succeeds the former.

Then be not coy, but use your time,
And while ye may, go merry:
For having lost but once your prime,
You may for ever tarry.

A Bank Book for New Years

Give the children something substantial for Christmas. Present them with bank books and begin early to instill in their minds habits of thrift and economy. Many of our customers are doing this. Parents open accounts for their children. Accounts may be opened with small amounts and on all such interest will be paid at the rate of 4 per cent and compounded every three months.

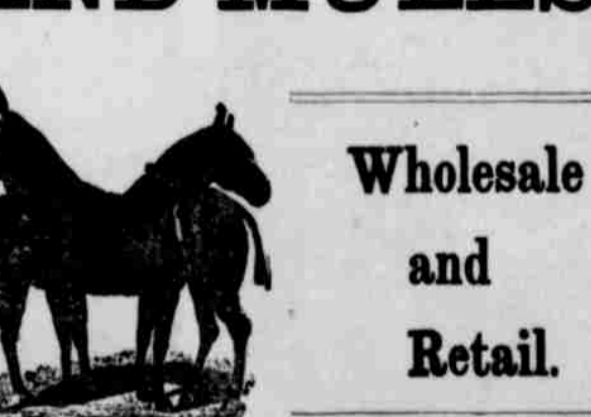
The Savings, Loan & Trust Company
F. H. WOLFE, Cashier.

HORSES AND MULES!

Wholesale and Retail.

Our buyer has just returned from the West with two car loads, our second supply for this fall. If you want one, a dozen, or a car load, it will pay you to come to see us. We have and keep in stock all kinds at right prices. Heed this notice and we will save you money.

E. A. Armfield & Sons.



Our buyer has just returned from the West with two car loads, our second supply for this fall. If you want one, a dozen, or a car load, it will pay you to come to see us. We have and keep in stock all kinds at right prices. Heed this notice and we will save you money.

Belk Brothers,
Dry Goods,
Clothing
and Shoe House.
The Cheapest Store
on Earth.

Auction Jobs A Specialty.
Cheapest Store on Earth. Phone 74.

New Year Resolutions.

Are you going to make any New Year resolutions? If you are, don't make an unreasonable one that you cannot keep. Every time you make a resolution and fail to keep it you are in a worse condition than you were with the old habit that you resolved to quit. We do not expect to make a single resolution and then break it. We will make only one. That is one we will have to keep; one that will profit us to keep. Read that resolution below. It is a simple one and the only one we will make and propose to bend all our energies and devote all our time to keeping faithfully to ourselves and all others concerned. It is this:

We resolve to maintain from New Year's Day 1904 to New Year's Day 1905 the best and cheapest Grocery Store in Monroe.

This will not be hard to do because we have been in the habit of doing that very thing for more than a year. It has paid us to do so and it has benefited every customer we have. Our new firm will maintain the integrity and reputation of the old one. With this promise, upon our part, we trust that we may have the continuation of your patronage in the future as we have had in the past. We most heartily appreciate the liberal way the good people of the county have patronized us in the past and beg a continuation of the same in the future. Assuring you our best service and lowest prices, and again assuring you of our hearty appreciation of your patronage in the past, We are yours,

Bivens & Helms.

Nothing Like Success!

We've labored hard and long to establish a reputation for honest and fair dealing, giving 16 ounces to the pound, and underselling all competitors wherever located. It is true there are those who at times think they might do better in the towns, and we are always glad to have them investigate, for it always results that I am the cheapest place. Nice line Ladies' Capes and Cloaks just in from New York. Best Stick Candy 7 cents per pound. Best Granulated Sugar 20 pounds for one dollar. Paper Pins 1 cent. Set Table Spoons 5 cents. 8-day Clock, best, \$1.98. And we've got almost anything else you want. We have made our start by working cheap, and to get plenty work to do we are willing to work cheaper. Give us your orders. We will guarantee satisfaction. The place to meet your neighbor is at

HENRY W. PUSSEY'S,
204R, N. C.

Don't Blame the Cook if Your Bread Is Poor.

But in the future buy Porcelain Patent Flour. It is the best flour that can be produced by modern machinery and nothing but the finest wheat grown is used in its manufacture. Just arrived: New Crop Oat Flakes, Prepared Buckwheat Flour, Mountain Buckwheat Flour, New Macaroni, Strained Honey, Imported Syrup, Pin Money Pickles. If you want the finest cup of coffee you ever drank, try a package of Premier Coffee, and besides getting the finest coffee you also get a Rodgers Silver After Dinner Coffee Spoon in every package. Received every week by express Nannally's Fine Chocolates and Bon Bons. Fresh Cakes, Crackers and Wafers received each week.

The Lindsey Grocery Co.

Do You Want a Bargain?

We are going to manufacture Buggies, and in order to get considerable more room, we will for the next thirty days close out our entire stock of Vehicles at or about cost for the CASH only.

Our stock is well selected and comprises some of the latest styles. We can suit the most fastidious. This is no fake advertisement. We mean what we say, and you can put your money in your pocket and come to see us. We will prove what we say.

The Heath-Lee Hardware Co.

To Cure a Cold in One Day
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets.
Cures Croup in Two Days.
On every box, 25c.