

# THE MORGANTON STAR.

VOLUME II.

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H. B. Sprague, THE MORGANTON STAR.

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John Ervin will open a First Class Restaurant in Morganton, Feb. 26th, 1886, to accommodate the public. I will have all hours, Ham, Pies, Cakes, Chicken and everything suitable to a first-class restaurant. Coffee only on special orders. Something that has long been needed in our town. I hope to merit the patronage of the public. Very respectfully,  
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A special arrangement with the Editor of *Country Homes*, published at Asheville, N. C., we will send that paper free for one year to all old and new subscribers who pay their subscriptions to the STAR to one year in advance. Thus you will get two papers for only the price of one.

*Country Homes* is a four column, sixteen page paper devoted specially to the interest of the farmers, industrial pursuits, and the development of the natural resources of the State and the South. Printed on good paper, clear type, stitched and trimmed, and the subject matter properly arranged in departments—thus making it an attractive and valuable paper for any family.

This offer will be open only a short while, so all our readers will do well to take advantage of it at once. You can see sample of *Country Homes* by calling at this office.

Letter from Cleveland.

CLEVELAND MILLS, March 4th, 1886.

Editor Morganton Star:

"I seat myself to drop you a few lines to let you know that we are all well, (except colds) hoping these few lines will come safely to hand and find you enjoying the same blessing." (except the colds.) If I had a dime for every time the above quotation has been used in epistolary correspondence I would be a millionaire, and not the impenitent ex-rebel that I am. But the quotations is not the sort of composition that brings in the dimes, so no one is benefited by its frequent use; and this leads me to reflect how the absence of a thing effects ones whole life. This reminds me also of a little incident. A short time ago, I was at a country post office when the mail arrived. The bags were emptied on the floor. The P. M. was busy at his desk, and the assistant was distributing the mail. I offered to assist the clerk, but the Chief said, "No, you had better not, for you are not familiar with mail matters, and you would likely make mistakes." What! I retorted, I not familiar with mail matters? Do you not know, sir, that only one thing prevented me from being Post Master General? "Why no, is that so, and what was the 'one thing' to which you refer?" Oh, nothing much, a very little thing, I assure you, sir, a little absent-mindedness on the part of the President—he forgot to nominate me.

Business in matrimonial circles has been quite brisk of late. I have officiated at the marriage of four couples since I came to Cleveland. I mention this fact only to call attention to several coincidences connected therewith. The first two grooms had the same Christian name, and namesakes of mine, by the way, which, when finally interpreted, may be quoted as a good "oman." All four were of Methodist antecedents but none of them members of any church. The "fees" were disproportionate, taking financial ability as a basis. This last does not strictly belong to the category of coincidences, but is none the less suggestive on account. Three of the bride's were daughters of widow ladies;

all four of them were members of the Baptist church. So much for the coincidences. Your Pa. correspondent mentions my name in the same sentence with Rev. J. N. Payne, and refers to camp life together. I was not in the same command with Mr. Payne during the war, but I was with him in a little scrimmage just after the war. We were students at Rutherford College, and took a stroll together one beautiful moonlight night. Suddenly two negroes emerged from the bushes and leveled their guns at us and demanded our money. I was fleet of foot in those days but somehow friend Payne beat me in that race. He has long since forgiven me for the part I took in that little episode. Even now it comes a shudder when I think how near old Burke came losing a good Supt. of Education.

I am curious to know who your Pa. correspondent is; if he is the yankee I captured the night of the 16th of June 1864, in front of Petersburg and conducted to a place of safety in our lines, he has my permission to remember me in his will as other grateful Yankees have done for similar kindness shown them. It is more probable, however, that he is an ex-rebel like myself, who, with malice prepense, has crossed the "dead line," intent on capturing some rich Duch girl by way of reprisal. He inquires as to my geographical whereabouts. As I am not technically a fugitive from justice, I have no hesitancy in gratifying your correspondent. I am located at this writing on the South bank of Little Broad river, on the Lincoln and Rutherford road, Cleveland Mills P. O. If your Pa. correspondent should pass this way on his return trip he is welcome to stop at my "ranche." We try to practice the Apostolic injunction, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers." We can provide "lodging also for the camels and apes."

Your correspondent perhaps would like to know something of my personal history since the war. "A short horse is soon carried." About the year 1865, I suddenly abandoned the idea of thrashing the yankee army and establishing a Southern Cranberry. I returned home, took in a strong decoction of poke root and red pepper as a panacea for "camp itch;" (My experience as to the curative virtues of this wonderful medicine, for obvious reasons, must remain an unwritten chapter in my personal history.) then I took a "skip and hop" course (The above remedy suggested this sort of course.) at Rutherford College; since then I have been keeping up a sort of guerilla warfare upon the "World, the Flesh and the Devil." My mind is made up to fight it out on this line. And here the chapter ends.

P. S.—Perhaps some of my friends will say, "he is not dignified." I think so too, sometimes, but I protest against anyone saying so unless he can define the term, "dignified," without referring to his dictionary. I choose this as the most effectual way of disposing of my imaginary critics.

I believe in the old adage, "Laugh and grow fat." It has not had much effect upon my leanness, but I have a suspicion that I didn't laugh right—a poor grin won't do. If my friends will condone the whim, I think I'll indulge a big ha, ha, and try that.

Letter from Kentucky.

EVANS, Ky., March 14, 1886.

Editor Morganton Star:

I desire giving the young men and readers of the STAR a short description of this part of the State of Kentucky.

I have traveled over the above named county and have not met a single North Carolinian. I don't know why it is, as this country is as good as farther West. The mountains are high and rough. But the valleys are large, smooth and fertile and adapted to agricultural pursuits. The mountains are filled with coal, which gives employment to hundreds of hands at \$1.50 to \$3.00 per day. Also there are lumbering companies which give employment to at least 1500 hands in this county, at \$1.50 to \$2.00 per day.

The Cumberland River flows from East to West through this county, by the cote of the county where the lumber companies have their mills, on which river logs are brought from 75 to 100 miles to said mills; all of which enterprises, with various others, bring money in the country.

I hope young men, on their way West, will give "Kantuck" a chance.

Your friend,  
S. T. RECTOR.

Where does forbearance cease to be a virtue?

Charlotte Democrat.

The readers of the *Charlotte Democrat* know that we have stood up for and defended Railroads in many instances where we thought they were unjustly censured; therefore we cannot truthfully be counted an enemy to our systems of Railroads.

But a reliable gentleman of this city, told us the other day that he shipped 1,000 Brick from here to Huntersville, on the Charlotte & Statesville Railroad, and that the freight charged on the Brick for a distance of 12 or 15 miles was six dollars for one thousand, while the price of the Brick was only \$6 or \$7 per thousand.

Now, we respectfully ask, why should such an extortionate freight charge be submitted to by the people of a county who voted \$100,000 to the Statesville Railroad, and \$200,000 to the Charlotte & Atlanta Railroad, and \$60,000 to the Carolina Central Railroad, besides private subscriptions? Should we submit, as a people, to such charges against our business interests, and quietly lie down and die as a mercantile community?

Therefore, we again ask, "where does forbearance cease to be a virtue," or when shall we demand a "Railroad Commission" to do us justice?

The discriminations against Charlotte in favor of Richmond, on the Western N. C. Railroad, are such as to Charlotte or Mecklenburg taxpayers ought to submit to much longer.

We hope our people will read the above carefully, as it shows the great disadvantage that a community labors under when they do not have the advantages of a competing line of railroad. The people of Burke are feeling the effects of this monopoly, and a good majority of our voters are determined to remedy this evil by voting an appropriation to encourage the building of a competing line of road through our county.

The Supreme Court is the defender of the right of the people against illegal taxation even when enjoined by the legislature. There is a disposition on the part of most General Assemblies to spend the public money too generously. Politicians are great economists in the canvass before the voters, but when they get to Raleigh their economical resolutions often give way to the pressure of an influence that is never absent from the Capitol during the session of the General Assembly. Education is a good thing, but the people cannot afford to be over-taxed even for that. And however worthy may be the object in view the constitutional limitations ought to be strictly observed in every case both by Legislatures and by County Commissioners.—*Hickory Press.*

Newton Enterprise: The wife of Cicero Harmon, who lives near Blowing Rock, left him several weeks ago. She gave as her reason for leaving, that she could not "get along" with her mother; who lived with her. She had considerable personal property all of which she gave to her husband and only took with her a small sum of money. When last heard from she was in Kansas.

The Federal Fee Bill.

A correspondent of the *Charlotte Observer* writes in reference to the Federal Fee Bill:

On the day of its introduction it was not possible to give full details of the very elaborate bill reported for the Committee on the Expenditures of the Department of Justice on the subject of Marshals, District Attorneys and Clerks' fees. This measure provides that marshals and district attorneys shall receive salaries, instead of fees and be allowed their actual expenses for transportation going to and returning from court. They are required to render itemized accounts verified. Assistants and clerks are also allowed such amounts for actual transportation. The district attorneys for Western North Carolina and South Carolina receive under this bill \$4,000 salary. The district attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina is paid \$3,000 with many others. The Western North Carolina marshal's salary is \$3,000. The South Carolina marshal's is the same; the Eastern North Carolina marshal's \$3,000. The fees collected by marshals and district attorneys are to be paid into court and all expenses taxed against other parties than the United States. There are various other requirements in this connection. The marshal is allowed one clerk and one chief deputy, if deemed necessary by the attorney general. In the districts with which we are concerned, the salary for these officials shall not exceed \$1,500 in any case. Where courts are held at more than one place the attorney general may allow either a clerk or a chief deputy, but not both at such place, if the business requires it, at a salary not to exceed \$1,000. In no case shall fees hereafter be allowed to officers serving process except for committing and discharging prisoners. No such fee shall be paid to a chief deputy. No fees permitted where the service could have been by mail. Only actual expenses of transportation when itemized allowed to deputy marshals, sheriffs and constables while serving processes. Where there is no public conveyance an allowance of ten cents a mile each way is made in addition to the fees provided by law.

United States commissioner shall receive only \$1 for issuing process to arrest and \$1 for bond for court, also \$5 for all other writs, process, for all oaths, docketing, hearing and trying the same, but where there are two or more charges against one person the commissioner is allowed only one fee. Justice of the peace shall receive the same fees for serving in criminal cases. Their accounts must be verified and forwarded to the United States attorney.

Where one person is clerk of both Criminal and District courts, he shall not receive for both services more than \$3,000 per annum, (except the Southern district of New York, \$3,500.)

Only fifty cents per meal for marshal, deputy or prisoners, each allowed in transportation. The bill is very rigid in its terms.

Jurors and witnesses receive actual and necessary expenditures for transportation, and witnesses \$1.50 and jurors \$2 a day during actual attendance at court, and for the time necessarily occupied in going to and from the same. Deputy marshals and guards receive \$2 per day.

A Tribute to our Home

Stand by North Carolina. Do what you can to develop her resources, to maintain her honor, her prosperity. It is a sweet land in which to dwell and in which to die. Stand faithfully by her.

Her's is indeed a goodly heritage—a land of noble men and of pure and lovely women. "The sun as he walks the heavens in his diurnal round" looks down upon no fairer or dearer spot, nor more blessed homes—for here "the glory of his beams is rivalled" the sweet melo-dious "light of humanity and love" that is shed throughout our favored borders. Go where you may you will find no more delightful home. Seek the world over for a clime more favorable to health, for suns more genial and fructifying, and for nights of more unclouded beauty and splendor and you will seek in vain. "It is a land

of corn and wine; it is a land of gold and gems; it is a land of flocks and herds, of orchards and meadows; it is a land of good morals and steady habits," a land where civil liberty is dearly cherished and the laws are obeyed; a land where the school house and church spire stand side by side; where virtue is esteemed and honored, old age is revered, and the marriage relation is held as sacred; a land of simple manners and frugal habits, where an unpretending but generous hospitality is dispensed and where the people are "not forgetful to entertain strangers."—*Wilmington Star.*

Mr. Cordon's Temperance Sermon.

Statesville Landmark.

The joint service, as advertised, of the different churches of the town, in the temperance interest, was held at the Presbyterian church last Sunday night. It was crowded from pulpit to doors. People sat in the aisles and on the pulpit. Rev. J. H. Cordon preached the sermon. Revs. A. S. Billingsley and D. G. Caldwell participated in the exercises. Mr. Cordon's text was in Prov. 23:34 and 35, and Heb. 2:15: "Yes, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not; when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again." "Wo unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him and maketh him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness." Mr. Cordon preached an hour and twenty minutes. He was strong in argument, denunciation and appeal, and was heard attentively to the end. This was the first of a series of joint temperance services which are to be held monthly hereafter, alternating with the Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist and Associate Reformed Presbyterian churches.

Death of Mrs. R. S. Vance.

Asheville Citizen of 21st.

Intelligence reached here yesterday that this lady had died the previous evening in Washington City. Her health has been long delicate; and during the past winter under a residence in Washington City, had become more precarious, while her friends here, aware that she was an invalid, were hardly expectant of the present fatal issue.

She was the daughter of Gen. McElroy, of Yancey county, the well-known venerable gentleman whose death we recently announced, and a sister of Col. J. S. McElroy, a leading member of the Madison Bar. She was the wife of Gen. Robert B. Vance, the well-known member of Congress for six successive terms from this district, and at present Assistant Commissioner of Patents. Mrs. Vance was estimable in every relation of life, a devoted wife, a fond mother, a warm friend and a devoted Christian.

Her remains will be brought to Asheville for interment, the funeral taking place from the Methodist Church on Monday morning at ten o'clock.

Warm Springs.

The Warm Springs has been purchased by the "Southern Improvement Company," and the money—\$100,000—has been paid through Davis & Wiley's bank. Mr. A. H. Branson of Philadelphia is President of the Company, and the purchase money has been paid to Col. Jas. H. Rumbough. The hotel and improvements going up are to cost more than \$100,000 more. They are building sixteen new marble baths, to be lined with North Carolina marble, and in addition are building a swimming bath 100 feet in diameter. Mr. Wm. Murdock has been engaged and has gone up. He will lay out drives, etc. The outlook for the western part of the State was never brighter, as this and other enterprises not yet given to the public will show.—*Salisbury Watchman.*