

THE MORGANTON STAR.

T. G. COBB, Editor and Prop'r.
B. A. COBB, Business Manager.

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THE STAR IN THE CAMPAIGN.

While THE STAR has endeavored to vindicate the principles of the Democratic party, believing as we do that true democratic principles is the foundation of good government, we have stood square to the men who, we believed, would advocate an economical administration of the affairs of the government, both State and national; at the same time we have endeavored to treat the opposing party and their candidates with all due respect, avoiding personalities or any reflection upon private character; and during the campaign we have lost but two subscribers on account of our position, and for those two we received ten new paid-up subscribers, with many assurances that we would be sustained in the future as in the past.

THE ELECTION IS OVER.

And now that the election is over and the result declared, and the will of the people is the highest known law to an American citizen; the people have placed in office men who are to make and execute laws for the next two years—and having received the highest number of votes of course are elected—it is therefore to be hoped that each will strive to carry out the best interest of all the people, and at the same time be God-fearing men, looking to the elevation of the morals as well as the advancement of the temporal interest of the people. And it is a natural consequence for every man to have his preference and manifest more or less zeal in favor of the man of his choice; but as each candidate's dye is cast, whether elected or defeated, let all, both candidates and voters, accept the situation, and each pursue his vocation in the even tenor of his way, and if the man of your choice was not elected, take consolation in the fact that two years from date another opportunity will be afforded to have your preferences gratified.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

[Correspondence of THE STAR.]

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30, 1886.—The week has been rather a quiet one in Washington. The President and his Cabinet returned promptly after the fatigue of Bartholdi day in New York, and settled down to their desks. I do not think they are billed for any more fairs or unveilings this fall. The annual autumn races, which have always attracted large contingents from the fashionable, Diplomatic, Army, Navy, and official circles of Washington, are in progress, but the weather is unpropitious and they have excited less interest than usual.

Those of you who live far removed from Governmental machinery cannot realize the extent of the improvements in Departmental work under the new Administration. But those of us who have been here all the time, and who have seen so much of the idleness, extravagance, worthlessness and corruption of the old Republican officials and methods, take special delight in the new order of things and feel as if too much could not be said about it.

For instance, the current business of the Patent Office is in much better and more prosperous condition than when Commissioner Montgomery assumed control. At that time the work was largely in arrears, and he has succeeded in bringing much of it up to date. The application of an inventor for a patent is now reached in about three months after filing. The time formerly was five and a half months. Mr. Montgomery says he expects to be able to bring all of the work substantially up to date within the next few months, and so keep it.

A little over a year ago some of the divisions in this office were as much as seventeen months behind in their examinations. To fully appreciate the work accomplished, consideration must be given to the fact that the Commissioner was experienced and had to study up and advise himself thoroughly on all points relating to a very difficult practice. The attorneys practicing before the office are much pleased with the progress made, and ask that the good work may go on. The Patent Office, besides being self-supporting, pays a balance in the Treasury. There is now an account to its credit there of nearly three million dollars. Last year 24,134 patents were granted out of 37,695 applications.

A new order of things confronts politicians these days; no help from Washington, and stumping federal officials to be called to account. Consequently but few can be seen here this week. The elections are only five days off, but the habit of running to Washington in a hurry to get friends or offices to assist in the election, is not in order this year. No assistance beyond sending out documents by the campaign committees has been drawn from the Capital. Notwithstanding the great interest felt in the result, the Administration has rigidly abstained from everything that could be construed into official interference, and no campaign contributions have been collected in the Departments.

There is much doubt as to the general result of the election, but whatever it may be as to parties, there will be a large number of new men in the next House. The recent action of the President in suspending District Attorneys Stone and Benton, one a Democrat, the other a Republican, for too great political activity, is accepted as an indication that the order is to be strictly enforced. It is expected that a number of dismissals will result from violations of this order. A general court of inquiry would probably not be found practicable, but where serious charges are made and supported with sufficient evidence, dismissals will follow.

A campaign lie has been going the rounds of late to the effect that when the agent for the sale of General Grant's Memoirs asked permission to canvass the Interior Department for subscribers, Secretary Lamar refused to grant it, but that an agent for the "Life of Robert E. Lee" was accorded the privilege without the slightest objection being interposed. Nobody ever solicited permission to canvass the Interior Department for the "Life of Robert E. Lee" until last Tuesday, when leave was promptly granted. When the agent of Grant's Memoirs made known to Mr. Lamar his desire to go through the Department with his subscription book, the Secretary not only acceded to the request without hesitation, but headed the list of Interior Department subscribers with an order for the twenty-five dollar or costliest edition.

A CURIOUS SIGHT.

Charlotte's Latest Sensation—The Rain Tree—Rain Falling for Three Hours and the Skies Bright and Clear.

[Charlotte Observer.]

Charlotte has a sensation of a most puzzling character, and one which will prove an interesting subject for study by the scientists and the learned men of the land. It is a tree, or rather a pair of trees, in the vicinity of which regularly each day, at 3 o'clock, a shower of rain falls. The phenomenon was yesterday witnessed by a crowd of at least 250 citizens, before whose gaze the rain fell for the space of two hours.

The locality of this strange occurrence is at the corner of Ninth and D streets. Three weeks ago, it was reported that every day at three o'clock a shower of rain would fall at that spot, but most of our citizens thought it a subject for the chestnut bell. During the last few days, however, they have begun to look at the matter in a different light. There is no joke about it, but the rain really does fall, as indicated above, and it can be witnessed any day, after 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

An *Observer* reporter, anxious to test the truthfulness of the report yesterday visited the spot and found a crowd of a least 270 already assembled, waiting for the rain to commence. The skies were perfectly clear, the sun was shining brightly, and everything in the vicinity was dry and dusty from the prolonged drought. On reaching the place where the people were assembled, the reporter enquired for the spot on which it was said that the rainfall was to be seen, and was pointed to two scrubby oak trees growing in a yard in the corner of Ninth and D. Streets. There was nothing unusual about the appearance of the trees, save that they were not very well filled with leaves. At half past three o'clock the expectant multitude was rewarded by the appearance of the rain. It began coming down between the two trees in a kind of a mist which gradually increase until it was a gentle, but undoubtedly a genuine rain fall. Though the rain was falling before the eyes of all present, no one could tell from whence it came. It could be seen coming down from a point above the tops of the trees, and continued falling until 5 o'clock and that was all that could be realized. Every individual present could see it plainly. An umbrella held under the falling water was quickly made dripping wet. Handkerchiefs spread on the ground were also made wet. One lady placed a gossamer at the foot of the tree, and when she took it up it con-

tained a tablespoonfull of water. The water is icy cold. Among those present yesterday and who can testify to the truthfulness of what is above recorded, were Mr. James A. Berry, sergeant in charge of the signal station in this city; Mr. D. P. Hutchinson, and a large number of young lady pupils of Charlotte Female Institute in charge of Mrs. Atkinson, in addition to a number of prominent citizens. Mr. Berry was so impressed with what he witnessed that he reported the occurrence to the Chief Signal Station at Washington. The plot of ground covered by the rainfall is about ten feet square. This wonderful occurrence has been going on daily for four weeks past, as the residents of that vicinity can testify.

While the rain was falling yesterday Mr. Hutchinson climbed up one of the trees to make an investigation, but failed to unravel the mystery. The leaves and twigs were perfectly dry, and while he was in the top of the tree, he could see rain coming down from above him. These are the facts and the wise men can now take the case.

[Observer, Oct. 24.]

Our people are really excited over that phenomenon the rain tree, the peculiarities of which were fully set forth in yesterday's *Observer*. Notwithstanding the attraction of the tight rope walker, the rain tree yesterday afternoon had an audience of fully three hundred people, all of whom saw and were convinced. An explanation is now badly wanted by our people. No possible cause can be given by anyone and the man with a theory has not been heard from. During the progress of the rainfall yesterday, Rev. Wm. R. Atkinson, principal of the Charlotte Female Institute, climbed into the top of the tree to make a personal investigation, and like Mr. Hutchinson, he was also puzzled. he could see the rain coming from above the tree, but from whence it came remained to him a mystery.

There are many people in town who hold that this must be a joke of some sort but if they will attend the matinee this afternoon, provided the skies are clear, they will be convinced. The locality of the phenomenon is at the corner of Ninth and D streets, and the performance generally commences at 3 o'clock.

Clothing for men boys and children at Davis Bro.

18 lbs. good Rice for \$1.00, at R. B. Brittain & Co.'s.

A car load of the celebrated "Leonor's" Flour just in store at the Cash Warehouse.

Take warning and go to R. B. Brittain & Co.'s and lay in your winter clothing while it is so cheap. A fresh supply received this week.

Women are everywhere using and recommending Parker's Tonic because they have learned from experience that it speedily overcomes despondency, indigestion, pain or weakness in the back or kidney's, and other troubles peculiar.

Davis Bros. are still receiving new Fall and Winter Goods. Every freight train brings goods,—the fact is, they are so full they hardly have room, and say they will certainly sell cheap to make room. Go and see their stock anyway, as it certainly is the largest ever in Morganton before. Just think of a good pair of shoes for one dollar—and many other articles are cheaper than they have before been.

Morganton Produce Market.

—CORRECTED WEEKLY BY—
JOHN. H. PEARSON.

BUYING PRICES.

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Apples, | 55@50 |
| Cabbage, | 1 1/2 |
| Buck wheat flour, | 5 1/2 |
| Corn, | 67 1/2 |
| Oats, | 40 |
| Beans, white, | 80@100 |
| " colored, | 80 |
| Potatoes, Irish, | 40@50 |
| " sweet, | 50 |
| Pork, | 5 |
| Turkey, per lb., | 7 |
| Butter, | 12 1/2 |
| Fresh Eggs, | 8 |
| Spring Chickens, | 8@12 1/2 |
| Wheat White, | 80@90 |
| " Red, | 80 |
| Rye, | 60 |
| Hides, dry, | 10 |

NOTICE.

All persons having claims against the estate of J. C. Tate, late of Burke county, will present them to the undersigned, or to S. C. W. Tate, attorney, on or before the 1st day of Oct. A. D. 1887, or this notice will be plead in bar of recovery.

All persons indebted to said deceased will make payment without delay.

W. M. WALTON, Ad'mr.
By S. C. W. Tate
Sept. 28, 1886. Attorney.

R. B. BRITTAIN & Co.,

THE LEADING CLOTHING HOUSE

Of the Piedmont Section of Western North Carolina.

Asheville is the Great Emporium of trade of Western North Carolina west of the Blue Ridge; while Charlotte supplies the central portion of the State, leaving a large territory, embracing the Piedmont Section, which is rich in minerals and productive of immense quantities of wheat, corn, tobacco, hay, oats, fine cattle, hogs, sheep, without a central market, and we can conceive of no better location than Morganton as headquarters for the trade of all the Piedmont Section, and with this idea in view we have arranged our Mammoth Building for that purpose. Allow us to innumerate some of the articles that we make a specialty of, and

We Defy Competition This Side of Baltimore.

OUR CLOTHING DEPARTMENT:

MEN'S MEN'S WEAR, WARE,

from the Finest down to the Lowest Grade Suits.

FOR YOUTHS

we can suit the most fantastic dude; also the plainest play-boy.

FOR CHILDREN

we have all sizes, grades and prices.

OUR SHOE DEPARTMENT

is complete. We carry a full line of GENT'S FINE SHOES, direct from the best manufactory in the U.

LADIES AND MISSES SHOES.

We carry a full line of Ladies and Misses Shoes of all grades, sizes and prices.

HATS.

We have the finest assortment of Hats ever kept in this market and do not intend to let a customer go without being suited.

GENT'S FURNISHING DEPARTMENT,

such as White Shirts, laundered and unlaundered, Colored Wool Shirts, Under Shirts, Cravats, Neck-Ties, Linen and Silk Handkerchiefs, Suspenders.

A LOT OF GOODS AT COST.

In order to make room for our Fall Stock of Clothing, we will sell a lot of Hardware, Cookery, Wood and Willowware AT COST.

FOR THE ACCOMMODATION OF OUR CUSTOMERS WE KEEP A LIMITED SUPPLY OF GROCERIES.

Rice 18lbs. for a Dollar.

In addition to our already Large Stock, we are daily receiving New Goods from the Northern Markets in large quantities.

But some people, who look at the dark side of the picture only, may say, Why such an outlay for goods the supply is equal now to the demand. For their benefit we will say, that, from all portions of the country the yield of the crops will be far beyond everyone's expectation, and a better trade is expected this fall than usual. Already the prospects are brightening and the way is clear. Let our people take courage and use economy in industry in garnering the beautiful crops that the earth has yielded.

We tender our sincere thanks for the liberal patronage that we have received from the public, and solicit a continuation of their favors, and bespeak a good word from them to their friends.

Very respectfully,

R. B. BRITTAIN & CO.

Morganton, N. C., Sept. 2, 1886