

Arrival of Trains at Marion.

Southern Railway (Eastern time)—No. 11, west, due 11:42 p. m. East, No. 10, west, due 8:17 a. m. No. 12, east, due 4:12 p. m. Local freight, (carries passengers), east, due 12:30 p. m. west, due 12:30 p. m. O. & C. Railway—Passenger arrives 12:30 p. m., daily, leaves 2 p. m.

LOCAL NEWS.

—Christmas comes one week from to day.

—Col J. F. Morpew was able to be on the street Thursday.

—We add fifty copies this week to our issue to meet our demands.

—Rev. J. S. Corpening occupies the house lately vacated by Rev. Dr. Landrum.

—The show windows on main street are most decidedly having a Christmas appearance.

—We try not to exist by spurts and starts but to give an all the year round good paper.

—Mr. Ledwell has moved to the house in which Rev. Mr. Rodgers has lived for several years.

—Mrs. T. A. White's school will have some closing Christmas exercises on next Monday night.

—Rev. T. J. Rodgers has just moved into the Sledge house opposite to the Fleming-Eagle Hotel.

—The December number of Judge, one of the best comic monthlies, is gaudily and well gotten up.

—See our communication from Mr. S. M. Dugger about the new turnpike road across the Winding Stairs, etc.

—Col. P. J. Sinclair was called to Charlotte on Tuesday by an important case at law in which he is one of the attorneys.

—Remember if you have not the cash to pay for the MESSENGER, take us produce to some store, and we will credit it on your subscription.

—The Democrat family magazine for December is most tastefully illustrated and well filled with varied matter. Democrat Pub. Co., New York, \$2 a year.

—Some counties adjoining us have been authorized to levy a special tax to supplement the public school money whereby the schools may run longer.

—Allow us to call attention to the new advertisement of McCall & Conley, plucky and successful merchants. It will pay you; and they mean what they say.

—We are steady, but surely building up about town, and with reason it may be said that Marion is growing. A continuous, steady growth is better than a "boom."

—Vacant houses are becoming scarce here now, which is no bad indication for a town. But would it not pay some persons to erect some more desirable, rentable houses?

—Rev. C. J. Wingate will occupy the house where Mr. Thomas McGuire has recently lived, the latter gentlemen having moved into the home of his father-in-law, Mr. N. G. Rich.

—What has more cheek than a town cow with a bell on that wants to make a pasture out of your garden and your front yard? Two or three town cows each with a bell on, that want to do the same thing.

—G. G. Eaves, Esq., has bought and moved into the house lately owned and occupied by Mr. J. F. Dellinger on South Main street, next door to Dr. White's. Mr. Dellinger has moved to Hickory, we are sorry to learn.

—To preface, let us wish in advance of Christmas week, that the holidays may be full of pure enjoyment to each and all of our readers, while we are useful to others; and let us learn the nobler lessons of the season.

—See the announcement of our clubbing rate with The Home and Farm, one of the best and most widely read papers of the kind in the South. The Home and Farm and THE MESSENGER a year for only \$1, or the Home and Farm free. \$1.50 for \$1.

—Mr. C. C. Lindly of Old Fort, who made us a call on Wednesday stated that he had made about 160 bushels of vineless sweet potatoes to the acre this year. We had a few hills of this new variety in our garden, and they did well. Our friend's yield is worthy of imitation.

—The Presbyterians prefer to vary, for some reasons, the Christmas exercises from that of the Christmas tree variety. Suitable gifts will be made, but the main features will be a regular program of the school, consisting of songs, responsive exercises, recitations, etc., etc.

—We acknowledge the receipt of an invitation to be present at a Christmas entertainment to be given by the Baptists in their church at Old Fort on the night of the 24th. If not providentially prevented we will be glad to be there. The notice of the entertainment appears elsewhere.

—It was creditable to gentlemen forming the late building committee of the jail to receive such a trust—it did not reflect on them. But why did not the majority of the late Legislature put that trust in the hands of the county commissioners, which is usual? But it was the Legislature of 1895.

—The Catawba Valley and Highlands, Burke County, Western North Carolina, by W. C. Ervin, is a most elegantly bound and illustrated circular gotten out by the Morganton Land and Improvement Co., a real estate firm of that thriving town. We need a write-up of this region also.

—Marion is becoming known as an interesting and profitable lumber market. We may have three buyers of lumber, a new firm hav-

ing just entered the field—Chew & Morrow, dealers in lumber and logs, whose office is over the drug store. Dr. W. P. Jones and Mr. J. McNaughton, also, are buying lumber.

—The advertisements of Christmas holiday goods by our regular patrons show for themselves in bargains and pleasure to the buyer. Also, we may be allowed to call attention to the way they are displayed by the printer. Visit the stores of our patrons, and mention, if you will, that you saw it in THE MESSENGER.

—A very interesting society event will take place on the evening of the 23rd inst., at seven o'clock, in the Baptist church of this place. At that time Dr. B. L. Ashworth, of Hendersonville, N. C., will lead to hymen's altar, Miss Hatie Crawford, a daughter of our townsman, Mr. G. W. Crawford. Dr. Ashworth is an excellent christian gentleman, having a growing medical practice in Hendersonville and vicinity. They make a suitable, happy couple. Allow us in advance to express our best wishes.

—By way of review, let us call your attention to the features of THE MESSENGER for '97. (1) We shall strive continually to improve it. (2) The variety of matter in reading and news. (3) Condensed news from the surrounding counties. (4) Large eight column pages, plain print. (5) A strictly home paper, yet the latch-string hangs on the outside to all worthy newcomers. (6) Open, candid, faithful to the truth, yet fair to all. (7) Best advertising medium. (8) Increasing subscription list. (9) Weather and market reports. (10) Bill & P's letters. (11) Talmage's sermons, clubbing rates, etc., and many other features at \$1 for fifty two numbers, less than two cents a copy. When you expect your paper, we are ready.

—Ex Sheriff, with Mrs. J. G. Neal, returned from their trip to Washington, D. C., on the week of the eighth. They left on the eighth. They enjoyed their week's visit to the Nation's capital very much indeed; also, in spending some time while there with their son, Will W. Neal, who has been for quite awhile engaged in the war department of the government. The Sheriff looked down upon Congress from the galleries. He heard the bill introduced to adjourn on the 22nd for Christmas holidays that they might all go home to help eat the Xmas turkey. As the venerable Senator, H. M. Teller, came to his desk, it was loaded with the big bouquet of flowers he being met by members of different parties recognizing his ability and worth.

Xmas Entertainment.—On Thursday night, Dec. 24th, 1896, the Baptist Sunday School at Old Fort, will give a Christmas entertainment at the Baptist church, consisting of recitations, solos, quartets, and chorus songs. Prof. C. C. Boone will deliver an address pertaining to the advent of Christ. All are cordially invited to attend, as a nice time is anticipated.

Federal Court Clerk Patterson Dead.—Mr. Robert O. Patterson, clerk of the United States court at Asheville, died last Saturday evening. His death was sudden and unexpected. He had just returned to his home in Asheville from Swain county, says the Citizen, and had gone into the bath room to take a bath. Mrs. Patterson, thinking her husband was remaining in the bath room, went to the door and found him dead. It is believed that the water being a little cold, caused the death stroke. Mr. Patterson having for some time been afflicted with heart trouble. Deceased was a prominent Republican politician, and was spoken of for collector of this district under the McKinley administration. His successor as clerk of the Federal court will be appointed by Judges Simonton (Democrat) and Dick (Republican) and it is hard to tell whether the new clerk will be a Democrat or a Republican.

Greenlee Notes.—Correspondence of THE MESSENGER.—Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Neal are visiting in Nealsville.

Rev. J. C. Brown finds work up on the Silver Creek circuit very congenial, and, with his family, will leave us sometime this week.

Little Billy, the crippled son of Mr. and Mrs. John Dover, died very suddenly on the evening of December 6th. Our other invalids all seem to be regaining health. Greenlee school reopens on Monday, January 4th, 1897. An excellent corps of teachers has been engaged, and there is a fine prospect for a most successful term.

Visitors to Greenlee within the last few days have been, Mrs. M. M. Greenlee, of Marion, Mrs. Morris, of Nealsville, Mr. Ernest L. Eubank, of Hendersonville, and Mr. J. M. Miller, who has lately moved from Garden City to Old Fort, that he may study telegraphy. Mrs. Harriet Reed is also making farewell visits to friends in this neighborhood. While we earnestly hope that her new home in Baltimore may prove a very happy one, all are exceedingly lothly to lose from our midst such a kindly and generous leader in all good work.

The expiring haps and mishaps attendant upon the present system of pasturing stock everywhere except upon the owner's premises have started a petition for the "no fence" system in a district which shall include both Greenlee and Garden City. All thrifty farmers who love fair dealing wish soon to see it effect.

—Be on time to get the bargains at the 10 days big cost sale of goods at Blanton's. The ten days are out on the 25th.

—Complete holiday stock open next week, Monday, the 14th, at Swindell's.

—J. G. Nichols & Bro., are selling out for cash at cost.

THE TWO EXTRA CAGES.

Differences of Opinion as to Whether or Not the Commissioners Should Pay for Them—The Jail in Full as to Re-building the Jail—A Suit May Grow Out of the Matter.

Last week in the account of the commissioners' court we gave a statement touching the claim made by the Manly Manufacturing Company for pay for the two extra cages that have been placed in the jail. We secured our facts from the register of deeds, J. C. Brown, and from the county attorney for the commissioners, D. E. Hindings. After publication, these gentlemen and one of the commissioners stated that our account was in accord with the facts. We endeavor to be careful and not to jump at conclusions by any means, and we have not.

It may be said, to justify the printers in a small matter, of which they were not at fault (for scarcely ever is a mistake made by them), that in much of the printing by us, to be correct, some words naturally could not be made out, so that the sentence, "the cages were placed in the jail against the protest of the county commissioners," was somewhat confused. But this is a small matter, but we shall be understood. As matter was being gathered for the account last week, it emerged to us that there was a difference of opinion as to whether the above company should be paid for the extra cages. The last board of commissioners in May refused to pay for them; this board refuses to pay for them also. But the Manly Manufacturing Company claims \$1,145 for them.

We have supposed that the difference of opinion was founded only upon a difference of view as to the source of authority in the matter: whether it rests in the commissioners or in the committee appointed by the Legislature, for all are men of good integrity. Also, the matter of economy may have entered to cause difference of view.

An outline of the view held by the representative of the Manly Manufacturing Company, J. L. C. Bird, Esq., is that the bill does not limit the amount to \$5,000, and that the matter was taken out of the hands of the county commissioners, whose authority is suspended as to the jail and placed solely in the hands of the building committee, consisting of different men from the commissioners. In his view the commissioners should issue the script at once for \$1,145 as claimed. We desire to add shall give both sides. This last is not the view of the county commissioners and their attorney. They hold that the commissioners have authority and are limited, so far as the Legislature has gone, to \$3,000. The committee asked the commissioners for an additional \$800 (which they could not grant by law), which matter is on record in Register Brown's office. This seems to be an admission that the commissioners did have authority in the premises.

The other two cages and the corridor, besides the two cages in dispute, will hold about twelve prisoners. This is besides what the other two large rooms will hold. This is as much room as the county would likely need in 25 or more years, it is claimed, for her own prisoners, and it is only her duty to provide for these. It does not appear economy these hard times, when the county is in debt somewhat, to pay for two extra cages, unless it can be proven that we plainly have promised to pay for them, then we will have to pay for them, that is all.

This is a matter of interest to all, and we give below the law in full as to re-building the jail, etc.: PUBLIC LAWS OF NORTH CAROLINA, SESSION, 1895, PAGE 483.

"An Act to Authorize the County Commissioners of McDowell County to Levy a Special Tax."

Section 1. That the commissioners of McDowell county are hereby authorized, and it shall be their duty, to levy a special tax on the property and polls in said county of McDowell, observing the constitutional equation, for the purpose of building a new jail in said county; the tax to be levied as follows: For the year 1895, \$1,000; for the year 1896, \$1,000; for the year 1897, \$1,000.

Section 2. That said tax shall be levied and collected as other taxes are, as now provided by law.

Section 3. That for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, and constructing a new jail for said county of McDowell, the following building committee is hereby appointed: G. W. Crawford, John C. Pool, R. W. Brown, W. A. Conley, and A. J. Dula.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of said building committee to build and construct a common jail for the said county of McDowell in the town of Marion, on the lot now owned by said county, formerly used as the common jail lot; said committee is hereby authorized and empowered to design, contract and construct said jail to the best advantage, with full power to do any and all acts necessary to enable them to carry out the provisions of this act.

Section 5. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act be and the same are hereby repealed.

Section 6. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified the 13th day of March A. D., 1895."

It strikes a layman of the law, too, that, so far as the Legislature has gone, the limit is \$3,000, or else the amount is absolutely unlimited.

As there is no dispute about the fact of the extra cages being there, the point of law may be simply left with the judge to decide, so we are informed by the attorneys. This would be prompt and less expensive.

Justice should be done, and doubtless will be, to both the county and the Manly Manufacturing Company.

Another fact comes to us, which we append. That is, that the jail was nearing completion before the

building committee consented for the Manly Manufacturing Company to put in the extra cages. It was at first contracted with the Manly Company to build the jail with two cages and a corridor for \$3,500. One thousand dollars of the \$1,145 is for the two extra cages, \$140 for interest on deferred payments, and \$5 for outside steps. The members of the committee have signed an order on the commissioners for the \$1,145. The Manly Manufacturing Company also stated that if the extra cages were not desired they need not be paid for.

Get your cash together from the different corners of the house and be ready to secure some of those bargains at A. Blanton & Co.'s from Dec. 15th to Dec. 25th. Twenty thousand dollars worth of goods will be offered at cost on those days.

Major C. T. Pieton is manager of the State Hotel at Denison, Texas, which the traveling men say is one of the best hotels in that section. In speaking of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy Major Pieton says: "I have used it myself and in my family for several years, and take pleasure in saying that I consider it an infallible cure for diarrhoea and dysentery. I always recommend it, and have frequently administered it to my guests in the hotel, and in every case it has proven itself worthy of unequalled endorsement."

For sale by Morpew & White. In selecting wedding or Christmas presents, don't overlook the handsome line of silverware and lamps at Swindell's.

Martin Bros., are selling out at and below cost.

M. E. L. Gaston has received a general line of China and iron stoneware, also, glass ware, and decorated lamps very suitable for Christmas presents. It would pay purchasers to look over these and his general stock before buying.

In 1892 Mr. A. L. Goldwater, who owns 3 retail drug stores in New York City, having learned of the great value of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, ordered a supply for his customers. It met with so much favor that he soon found it necessary to order more, and during the winter sold over two gross of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, which relieved him immediately. "I will not be without it in the future." 25 and 50 cents a bottle.

Books! Books! Books!!! From 5c. to \$1.50 at Swindell's.

Headquarters for Family and Fancy Groceries and Fresh Loaf Bread—W. B. Rathoff's.

When needed it is not unusual for your family physician to be away from home. Such was the experience of Mr. J. Y. Schenck, editor of the Caddo, Ind. Ter., Banner, when his little girl, two years of age, was threatened with a severe attack of croup. He says: "My wife insisted that I go for the doctor, but as our family physician was out of town I purchased a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, which relieved her immediately. I will not be without it in the future." 25 and 50 cents a bottle.

For sale by Morpew & White.

Jack Corponing's for Fresh Fish every week. Good meals cheap.

There is nothing so good as Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, so demand it and do not permit the dealer to sell you some substitute. He will not claim there is anything better, but in order to make more profit he may claim something else to be just as good. You want Dr. King's New Discovery because you know it to be safe and reliable, and for that reason we will have to pay for them, that is all.

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DR. T. C. SMITH, Wholesale : Druggist, ASHEVILLE, N. C., Pays cash for Ginseng, Beech wax and Birch Oil in any quantity.

Thirty-eight years in Drugs J. G. REID, D. D. S., -SUCCESSOR TO- R. J. Burgin, Dentist,

Offers his professional services to the people of McDowell and the surrounding counties. All Work Guaranteed First-Class. Rooms 1 and 3, up stairs, in the Neal Building. Marion, N. C., June 4th, 1896.

PERHAPS In No Class of Goods is Experience More Necessary Than in Shoe Buying. Haphazard, Chance and Job Lot Buying Won't Do!

There is as much difference in Shoes as there is between Crab Apples and Pippins. We can't afford to keep the Crab Apple kind. While we have cheap shoes, as well as the one—heavy for farm and light-weight for city.

There is a Place to Draw the Line. Some shoes are dear at any price! What with shoddy inner soles, poor heels and counter—no good shower finishes them up. You can depend on good values here, as we make a specialty of them.

Goods exchanged, or money refunded, if not suited. J. Spangenberg, 4 Court Square. ASHEVILLE, N. C. (1833-61).

Wanted—An Idea Who can think of some thing to sell? Write JOHN WEAVER & CO., Patent Attorneys, Washington, D. C., for their plan and list of two hundred inventions wanted.

Christmas Is Coming! And Don't Forget to Call at

Morpew & White's: And get your Christmas Goods. We do not think we EXAGGERATE when we say we have the Most Complete Line of Christmas Goods

Ever Brought to Marion, including: : : : A fine line of Cologne, all kinds and prices. A fine line of Picture Frames and Mirrors, all kinds and prices.

A fine line of Christmas Cards, all kinds and prices. A fine line of Candies, all kinds and prices. A fine line of Fireworks, all kinds and prices. A fine line of Confections, Raisins, Figs, Dates, Currants, Nuts (mixed), and Cocoanuts.

You will miss a treat if you fail to see our Cologne, Mirrors, Picture Frames, Christmas Cards and Candies.

YOURS TO PLEASE, Morpew & White.

DISSOLUTION? NO! A dollar SAVED is as good as a dollar MADE.

LEND US YOUR EAR. Don't be EXCITED by these GREAT BELOW COST SALES.

OUR MOTTO: We meet any one's price, whether they sell at cost, below cost, or at any price. WE STAND BY OUR CUSTOMER'S INTEREST.

OUR STOCK OF DRY GOODS & NOTIONS Are brimful of Choice Stuff that cannot be duplicated in the city.

HATS, HATS, CAPS, CAPS. We have Hats and Caps in the very latest styles and lowest prices. Our "Zimmy" Caps are beauties.

MILES' HAND-SEWED SHOES. We have this day received a line of Miles' Hand-Sewed Shoes for Ladies' and Gentlemen. Every one knows what this brand of shoes is. Every Pair Guaranteed. Be sure to try them.

CLOTHING! CLOTHING! We have a small line of Clothing, which we are selling Very Cheap for Cash, Not at Cost, but at a very small margin.

HEAVY GROCERIES A SPECIALTY. Yours to please, McCALL & CONLEY.

Go to J. C. McCurry's for Great Bargains. A much Larger Stock and a Greater Variety in my usual lines than ever before, especially in Men's and Boys' Ready-made Clothing, which I make a specialty in handling.

TO SPECIFY: Men's All-wool Suits from \$3 to \$15. Boys' All-wool Suits from \$1.25 to \$6. Cook Stoves from \$7 to \$16. Be sure and see them. A large variety of Trunks and Valises at Close Prices. See our Shoes for \$1, and at higher prices. We direct attention to our Macintoshes and Overcoats. Outings at 5c a yard; 32-inch umbrellas, 50c.

Examine the Variety and Quality of our Stock and see our Living Prices before buying elsewhere. J. C. McCURRY, Marion, N. C.

W. B. WELSH. The North Main Street Family Grocery Store. A General Assortment of Groceries: Arbuckle's Coffee, Tea, Sugar, Canned Goods, Lard, Tobacco, Caudies, Flour, Meal, Molasses, Soda and Sweet Crackers, Laundry Goods, Soap, Pearline, etc., etc.

RENEW now and get this great agricultural and home journal FREE! Yours for clever treatment and prices to suit the times, W. B. WELSH, Marion, N. C.

Watches! Gold Filled, Silver and Nickel. A Big and Varied Line of Chains.

Our Stock for the Holiday trade is Complete in day and Late Designs. New and Late Designs.

JAMES B. SWINDELL, Marion, N. C. JEWELER.

SILVERWARE! Fruit Baskets, Cake Baskets, Butter Dishes, Sugar Dishes, Tea Pots, Berry Bowls, Butter Knives, Sugar Shells, etc., etc., etc.

Books! Big Books and Little Books, in Board, Cloth and Leather. The Biggest, Best and Cheapest line we ever carried.

Also a few nice Oriental Lamps in Brass, Nickel and Copper Bronze with Silk Shades.

Miss Edwards Is Giving Great Bargains.—Everything Going at Cost.

Now is Your Chance to Get a Fine Trimmed Hat for Just One-Half.

Fine Velvet Hats that were \$4.50 go for \$2.75. Hats that were \$4.00 go for \$2.25. Hats that were \$3.50 go for \$2.00. Hats that were \$3.00 go for \$1.75. Fine felt shapes from 35 cents and up. Tam O'Shanta caps for 25 cents and up. Fine Sailors for 25 cents and up. Ostrich tips from 10 cents and up. Baby caps from 15 cents and up. Silk laces that were 35 cents for 20 cents. Silk lace that was 20 cents for 12 cents. Elegant ribbons that were 35 cents for 20 cents. And everything else in proportion. Come and see before buying.

MISS EDWARDS, OPPOSITE BLANTON'S MERRY CHRISTMAS! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As usual, we are headquarters for Santa Claus. Our line of these goods will be complete in all kinds, suitable for a present both for old and young. By the time you read this, we expect to have in a full line of goods, in Dolls for the Girls and Toys for the Boys, and if you want to make some one happy this Christmas, you cannot afford to miss our store. We shall have in a large line of goods that has never been shown in this town before, and we intend that the Prices shall be Low Down. We will be glad to have you call in and inspect our goods, for we believe we can suit you in goods and prices. Besides these goods, we have a full line of Glassware, Crockery, Wood and Willow-ware, Clocks, Watches and a big line of Jewelry.

Special: Six Plated Teaspoons, 25 cents, or Six Plated Tablespoons, 50 cents. We also have a large line of Silver-plated Novelties at 5 cents. Have you seen the Fine Parlor Lamp we are selling for 95 cents. We will be glad to show you our goods. Remember your child can buy of us as cheap as you can—ONE PRICE TO ALL.

Respectfully, Thomas Medd, Variety Store. Marion, N. C.

J. G. NICHOLS & BROTHER. Silver, Gold and Currency exchanged for a General Stock of Merchandise at REASONABLE PRICES. We aim to be elected by a large majority on QUALITY AND PRICE.

Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Dry Goods Groceries, Hardware, Queen's-Ware, Etc., Etc., Etc. CLOTHING A SPECIALTY. SEE THE YELLOW FRONT. J. G. NICHOLS & BROTHER. TRAVELERS, LOOK TO YOUR INTEREST!

Write at Bakersville, stop at the PENDLAND HOUSE, the best Hotel in the Mountains. The table is supplied the year round with the very best the country affords. Every comfort of guests looked after carefully. A good Feeding Stable is run in connection with the Hotel. REUBEN J. YOUNG, Proprietor. Bakersville, Mitchell Co., N. C., Oct. 2, 1896.