The Messenger.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 1897.

Marion Directory.

Town Government.

Mayor—Dr. M. F. Morphew.
Aldermen—J. L. Morgan, Wm. Sweeney, J. S. Dysart, W. M. Martin, J. G. Nichols.
Sec. and Treas.—Wm. Sweeney.
Marshal—L. A. Martin.

County Government.

Sheriff—R. L. Nichols.
Clerk Superior Court—B. B. Price.
Register of Deeds—Joe C. Brown.
County Surveyor—Jos. B. Burgin.
Coroner—Dr. G. P. Reid.

Churches.

BAPTIST—Rev. J. S. Copening, pastor. Services every first and third Sabbaths at 11 a. m. and in the evening. Sabbath school each Sabbath, 9:30 a. m. B. B. Price, supt. "The Sunbeams" meet on alternate Sabbath afternoons. Ladies' missionary Society meets monthly, on Tuesday afternoon after first Sabbath. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening. On second Sabbath the pastor preaches at Bridgewater, and on the fourth at Old Fort, 11 a. m. and evening.

METHODIST—Rev. T. J. Hodges, pastor. Services every Sabbath at 11 a. m. and in the evening, except the fourth, when the pastor preaches at Snow Hill. Sabbath school, 10 a. m. each Sabbath. A. B. Conley, supt. Missionary society first Monday evening after second Sabbath. Ladies' Aid Society each Tuesday afternoon, after first Sabbath. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

CHURCH OF GOD—Rev. A. J. Wingate, rector. Services every second Sunday, morning and evening. Sunday school at 3 p. m. afternoon. At Old Fort every first Sunday, morning and evening. Sunday school at 10 a. m. morning.

PRESBYTERIAN—Rev. Wm. H. White, pastor. Services every second and fourth Sabbaths at 11 a. m. and evening. On first Sabbath preaching at Glenwood, 11 a. m.; Old Fort, evening. On third Sabbath at Old Fort, 11 a. m., Marion in afternoon, 4 o'clock, Glenwood in evening. The Marion Sabbath school meets every Sabbath. Wednesday night prayer meeting. Ladies' Missionary Society every Saturday before third Sabbath at 4 p. m. Young People's Missionary Society every Sabbath afternoon at 4 o'clock. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

Arrival of Trains.

Corrected to date (Eastern time)—No. 12 mail, due 11:40 a. m. No. 11, due 1:14 p. m. Fast No. 16, vestibule, due 4:17 p. m. No. 12, east, due 4:12 p. m. No. 11 mixed, carries passengers, east, due 12 m. No. 15, west, due 4:12 p. m.

C. F. & Y. Railroad—Passenger arrives 12:20 p. m. daily, leaves 1:30 p. m.

LOCAL NEWS.

—Marion became the county seat in the year 1842.

—Marion is building up—it is in the air—and it is true.

—Workmen have begun on Attorney E. J. Justice's dwelling.

—How lovely are the spring days and the beautiful flowers!

—The total cost of this anniversary issue, work and material, is near $50.

—Long before the frost nips the buds, Marion will have a roller flouring mill.

—In another column we present a cut of North Carolina's greatest son, Z. B. Vance.

—Mr. P. F. Simmons is making brick at the yard with which to build several houses.

—Fire in the woods to the west of town caused some anxiety on Wednesday afternoon.

—James B. Swindell, the jeweler, has a new ad. in this issue. Read what he has to say.

—Mr. J. H. Gouge has rented and moved into Mr. J. S. Dysart's house near the O. R. & C. depot.

—See at the top of the first local column for the county and town government and church directory.

—Copies of this anniversary edition can be had at 5 cents each, 50 cents a dozen, $3.50 a hundred.

—Our total State tax is 45 cents on the $100; total county tax, 82 cents on the $100; poll tax, $2.45.

—From Sheriff R. L. Nichols' tax notice it appears that he is in earnest and had better be so taken.

—A beautiful and substantial iron fence adorns the front of Deputy Collector Neal's front yard.

—Morgan & Moore's livery stable is ready for the animals. It looms up with much roominess on depot street.

—We expect next week to publish the democratic side of the discussion pending as to some county affairs.

—As a newspaper we strive for truth toward all, but we should not be the organ of any clan if any should exist.

—The funeral of Mrs. J. C. Brown took place at the residence on last Saturday. She was a most estimable woman.

—In the rush we did not call special attention to the New York racket store ad. last week. See the store for itself.

—William J. Bryan, whose picture appears elsewhere, is THE MESSENGER's candidate for the Presidency in 1900.

—The whippoorwill has begun his plaintiff notes indicating that the cold of winter in his opinion is past, and he is often right.

—We have five boarding houses: Mrs. Jessie Neal, Mrs. Della Gilkey, Mrs. Agnes Hvams, Mrs. J. A. McDonald and J. M. Ellis.

—Ground storage, somewhat in the same manner of keeping ice during summer, fruits and vegetables and meats can be kept at a moderate cost.

—Those who supply us with paper were a day late this week and it is also a day late. In some things we are all links of a chain in the affairs of life.

—In other columns occur new advertisements of the mercantile business of Mrs. J. C. McCurry—a thoroughly reliable house of general merchandise.

—A barrel factory should pay heavy, more furniture factories, like Yards, anything to be offered the business man in the State can be accurately come here.

—We have endeavored to avoid the bombastic and the over florid in style, which things do not easily mix with facts which we were after in the "write up."

—A number of persons ask each other: "Is it to be a citizen's joint ticket in the municipal election, or are we to have political party lines drawn?" Soon it will be known.

—The freight car that was derailed on the yard here on the night of the 9th, was placed on the track a day or so since to go on its journeys of business, and mishaps.

—Round trip tickets on the Southern Railway at about two-thirds regular rates are sold to Marion, Old Fort and other railroad towns in McDowell, good from May to October the 31st.

—Only for the lack of space we were forced to leave some very interesting matter out that we desired to put in this issue. And for the same reason, we abridged some matter against our preferences.

—There are almost a thousand and one things to think of in a "write up." If we have omitted any thing, or any one that should have been mentioned, credit it to a slip of memory and not to our intentions.

—Mr. W. W. Miller, of Lenoir, was over this week prospecting for a lot on which to erect a dwelling for himself. For such good citizens or immigrants we would say the latch string hangs on the outside of the door.

—We call attention to the advertisement elsewhere of the Asheville hotel. It is a good house in that city of hotels. You get your full money's worth in excellent fare, lodging and the most considerate attention.

—Rumor doth have it that during the month of May when the flowers are in bloom the wedding bells will ring and two of McDowell county's old batchelors, well known here, will leave the life of single blessedness. Joy to them

—Some rascally thief slipped into a room, on Saturday night, in the house occupied by Mr. J. W. Ellis and stole some $36.00 from one of the sleepers—Mr. A. E. Crawford. We ought to have that thief working on our turnpike to Mitchell.

—Marion has seven attorneys: Messs. P. J. Sinclair, E. J. Justice, D. E. Hudgins, J. L. C. Bird, G. G. Eaves and M. A. Newland. Two regularly practicing physicians, Drs. Morphew and B. A. Cheek. Drs. G. I. White and W. P. Jones are in business.

—Mr. T. A. Seals, of Bridgewater, suffered a loss from some robbers on Tuesday night. They broke into his store, stealing a pistol, a few dollars of marked, old silver coin, some shoes and dry goods. He has no probable clue as to who the thieves are.

—We are very grateful to the following for the use of cuts in this issue: To the Asheville *Citizen*, Col. W. A. Turk, G. P. A., of Southern Railway, Washington, D. C., *North Carolina Presbyterian*, *Morganton Herald* and Morganton Land and Improvement Company.

—Of late the register of deeds has not been idle in issuing marriage licenses: In Marion, to Mr. B. W. Bond and Mrs. Katie Trinks; near Patten, to Mr. Sam. Dickson and Miss Dora Harris, daughter of Rev. B. B. Harris; on Crooked Creek, to Mr. J. Parker and Miss Davis.

—Our first year is out. If you have not paid us, please remember to hand it to us the first opportunity. If you have paid in the past, how it pleases us to receive a subscription in advance. Soon we will have to send statements to those who may be in arrears for any object.

—A man by the name of Myers, of Morganton, having a wife and three children, recently stole a young girl there and was supposed to be headed this way on Monday. On that day Sheriff Nichols, by authority, searched the west bound passenger train here, but the bird was not on board.

—It is very probable at this writing that the Catawba hotel will be sold for an industrial school with other features. This would be a vastly important institution to the county as well as to Marion. Many thousands would be expended in establishing and maining such an institution.

—Rev. B. K. Mason, who was to have preached at Bridgewater on last Sabbath was hindered from going on account of the illness of his wife. He preaches in Marion on next Sabbath, 18th. He will occupy the residence of Register Joe C. Brown, the latter gentleman will reside with Superior Court Clerk B. B. Price.

—We are at the one year mile post of THE MESSENGER. It has taken much work, but it has had its compensations and pleasures. To all who have aided us in any form to make the paper what it has been we return our most sincere thanks, and hope in the future to know no decline but a continual advance in the worth of our paper to our readers and advertisers.

—During the great fire that burned our town entirely out as to business houses, except one, all the wood, and other cuts of buildings not burned, were destroyed. Our photographer going away some time since has made it insurmountably difficult to secure any pictures of our town views or buildings. Later when such cuts may be secured we will be glad to insert them.

—If it is in the person an editor will write as reliably as any one else, regardless of the field in which he operates—all will be reliable. And so if there is any lingering reluctance to believe all a paper states this can be removed easily. There are indifferent, bad and good men in all the callings of life. There are a number of imitations of gold, but the true article is pure, and not to be blamed for the spurious.

—Marion has two tanneries, J. S. Dysart and J. L. Morgan, with capacity of 50,000 hides of dressed, rough and harness leather per year; also at Woodlawn, shipping from Marion, one tannery with capacity that equals both of those in Marion. The leather is shipped principally to eastern cities. Some is made into harness at home. Rates are the same on leather from Marion, as Morganton, to the east. There are good streams and plenty of bark for larger plants.

—One indication of a community's increase in business is a comparison of freight receipts for different periods. Our efficient general agent here, Mr. Geo. E. Lee, gives us the following comparison for the Southern Railway: Passenger traffic for the first three months of 1897, compared with 1896, shows an increase of 2 per cent; freight traffic received for the first three months of 1897, compared with 1896, shows an increase of 10 per cent.; freight traffic forwarded for the first three months of 1897, compared with 1896, shows an increase of 20 per cent. All trains "carry" passengers now. The increase freight received was caused by merchants buying in large stocks this year. The increase of outgoing freight is due to the shipment of lumber, furniture, forest products, and of local wheat to roller mills.

—Several sections of streets were let out on Monday, by authority of the board of aldermen, to different men as follows: To Mr. Frank Neal—from Rev. R. R. Brookshier's around to J. L. McCoy's corner, near the Methodist church. To Mr. Cal. Finley—from the Methodist church, on north Logan street, to Mr. T. A. White's, and from the house of the latter, on Fourth street, to the front of the Presbyterian church yard. To Mr. G. W. Crawford—Main street from Mrs. Lizzie Neal's to the lower end of that street. This is progress. Again our hat is doffed to the city fathers. We rejoice to see the right sort of progress like this. Considering so much street work to do, and bad weather the past winter, rapid progress could not be made. But like making hay, it can be done in the sunshine. The streets are to be rounded and guttered.

—Those whose advertisements are in this issue and who patronize THE MESSENGER, being about all who ever advertise, are as follows: A. Blanton, general merchandise; J. S. Dysart, general merchandise; Thomas Medd, variety store; Commercial Bank of Marion; Nichols Bros., general merchandise; Morphew & White's drug store; J. B. Swindell, jeweler and stationer; Miss Sallie McDohald, the milliner; Mrs. J. C. McCurry, general merchandise; Hotel Flemming-Eagle; E. L. Gaston, general merchandise; J. H. Gouge, the New York Racket Store; McCall & Conley, general merchandise; W. B. Welsh, groceries; Payne & Decker Bros., manufacturers; Marion Furniture Company; A. B. Gilkey & Son, livery stables; W. G. Cline, boot and shoe shop; B. W. Bond, tailor; D. N. Lonon & Bro., general merchandise; W. B. Ratliff, groceries; Piedmont House, J. M. Ellis, Prop.; J. G. Reid, dentist. Asheville advertisers: H. Redwood & Co., general dry goods, notions and shoes; the Asheville Hotel. Old Fort: C. C. Lindley, nurseryman; Disosway, the druggist. Miscellaneous: The Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company of North Carolina; Penland House, Bakersville, N. C.; H. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, Ill.—Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Electric Bitters, and Bucklen's Arnica Salve; Chamberlain Medicine Co., Des Moines, Iowa—Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, Pain Balm, and Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy; Bradfield Regulator Co., Atlanta, Ga.—Bradfield's Female Regulator.

PERSONAL.

Mr. J. L. Dysart, of Patten, was in town Monday.

Mrs. J. G. Yancey, and John Yancey, Jr., were down from Woodlawn this week.

Messrs. Harvey Dale and James Murphy left a short time since for Chillicothe, Texas, where Mr. Dale has an uncle.

Attorney S. G. Finley, of Lincolnton, a brother of M. W. Greenlee, was here for some days on account of Mr. Greenlee's illness.

Mrs. A. R. Johnson, of Johnson City, Tenn., daughter of Mr. Joe C. Brown, has been here for some days during and since the funeral of her mother.

Messrs. J. E. Burleson and Taylor Phillips, two of Mitchell's worthy citizens, were with us this week. Mr. Phillips was here in the interests of the turnpike of which he is one of the commissioners.

Mr. S. T. Kelsey, of Kamana, N. C., an old veteran and successful surveyor, came in this week. He surveyed the Yonnalossee road from Linville City to Blowing Rock, the best, or one among the best roads in the South. It is at least surrounded with more beautiful and magnificent scenery than any other road South. Mr. Kelsey has been employed and is out on the survey of the turnpike.

☞ Nicest line and biggest values in tablets and box papers at Swindell's.

☞ Do you want a Good Shave? Go to Crawford's, Craig building.

☞ Photo frames at Swindell's

☞ Do you like a cup of good coffee? Get the "Lion" at Gaston's.

☞ Good warm meals cheap at George Mockridge's restaurant at all hours.

☞ I have two children, a girl seven years and a boy two years old, for whom I desire to find a home for the two together. Their mother is not living, and I am unable to keep them. If I can secure a good home for them I will pay a reasonable amount.

JOHN C. PRITCHARD.

☞ Wanted to buy—a good milk cow. Apply at MESSENGER office.

NOTICE!

HAVING qualified as executrix of W. J. Allen, deceased, late of McDowell county, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of the said W. J. Allen, deceased, to exhibit them to the undersigned within twelve months from this date, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 29th day of March, 1897.

H. M. ALLEN, Administratrix.

ENTERPRISING MARION FIRMS.

A List of Houses That Do the Bulk of the Business of the Town.

A. Blanton.

This young merchant is a son of Wm. M. Blanton. "Ab" was brought up in the mercantile business. He started for himself with Mrs. M. N. Blanton as A. Blanton & Co. on March 1st, 1895. On January 1st, 1897, he bought out Mrs. Blanton's interest.

His stock is one of the largest in Western North Carolina. The building is 30 by 100 feet, two stories in height, with a very large basement for cold storage.

He keeps a variety of all goods sold in the market—from a paper of pins to a two horse wagon—our largest stock in our largest store building.

Besides a very large retail trade, Mr. Blanton does an extensive wholesale jobbing business.

His store is continually stocked with seasonable lines of goods to suit all demands.

He has an unrivaled reputation for keeping a variety of high class ladies' dress goods, gentlemen's furnishing goods and clothing, shoes, etc, and almost anything in the grocery line.

His aim is to secure and retain trade by straight forward, same manner of treatment to all.

A competent and courteous corps of clerks always await the call of customers. Correspondence solicited in filling orders by mail, such receiving prompt attention.

E. L. Gaston.

Mr. Gaston is one of Marion's latest acquirements in business life, and one of our most reliable and up to date merchants.

He came to us from Hominy Creek, Buncombe county, N. C., hardly a year since. There he was in the general mercantile business on an extensive scale with a brother, and had six years of good old fashioned, working experience—the kind that benefits and stays with a merchant.

The increase in his trade since coming to Marion speaks for him more than words.

He has the deserved reputation of keeping the neatest and cleanest stock of any one in town.

He discounts his bills with cash, and hence cannot and will not be undersold.

He means to build up a trade by upright dealing that will remain with him.

In his spring line of dress goods are the prettiest organdies, lawns, percales, swiss, and duck of all kinds; sailor hats for ladies, and straw goods of all kinds for gentlemen and boys.

His stock of groceries are kept fresh and assorted, and his shelves are not loaded with old goods, but kept filled with new kinds called for by the trade and seasons.

All liking clever treatment, good qualities and a variety, and satisfactory prices, will be pleased if they call at Gaston's.

James B. Swindell, the Jeweler.

Mr. Swindell came to Marion from Washington, N. C., about four years ago, and from a small beginning as a clerk, he bought out his employer, Rev. R. R. Brookshier. Then by straightforward dealing, industry, skill and advertising he has built up a splendid business—one that is larger than in most towns of our population.

This young man has had ten years' experience in the jewelry business.

His store is stocked and well equipped for the trade.

One specialty is watch work—securing much railroad and other fine watch repairing. The merit of such work of his is known here and in adjoining counties.

He carries a general line of jewelry, clocks, watches, rings, table cutlery, etc., etc., etc.

Optical goods, too, constantly on sale, and eye-glasses are properly adjusted.

Careful and prompt attention given to all mail orders in regard to watch work and sending jewelry.

D. N. Lonon & Bro.

Mr. D. N. Lonon began business several years since with Mr. Wm. McD. Burgin as clerk. He is an excellent salesman. Mr. Burgin retiring from business, he was bought out by Mr. Lonon. Then the great fire of November 25, 1894, burned the building and injured his stock, and he, in common with all the other merchants, rebuilt with brick. He now occupies one of the two stores of the two story Lonon block.

Since the fire his brother, James Lonon, has been associated with him. They are pushing and persevering in business.

The stock is a general line of merchandise—staple and fancy dry goods, shoes, dress goods, gentlemen's furnishing goods, clothing, groceries, etc., etc.

The house has recently employed a skillful shoemaker and mender, Mr. G. W. Cline, for the convenience of their customers and the public. He will do good work at their store with good stock at reasonable rates.

Morphew & White's Drug Store.

Dr. G. I. White became a partner with Dr. M. F. Morphew on September 1, 1894. Dr. Morphew has been in the business here for about 15 years.

The usual and full line of proprietary and patent medicines are handled, and a prescription department carefully managed.

In season, summer beverages are served from a most beautiful and costly soda fountain.

A very full and beautiful line of toilet goods are carried.

An extensive trade for our town is done in the purchase for cash of birch oil for cosmetics and perfumeries.

A long experience has given the firm a good and an extensive business. While Dr. White is an M. D. and a pharmacist also, and cashier of the Commercial Bank of Marion, Dr. Morphew is the practicing physian of the firm. Calls attended at all hours.

Courteous treatment await all customers.

McCall & Conley.

This is among the young, but one of the largest and strongest, firms in Marion, having added to their business every year since beginning.

In 1891 Wm. McCall opened a racket store here, with C. A. Dale, an experienced business man, as manager.

In 1893 G. W. Conley bought one-half interest in the stock, the firm becoming McCall & Conley. Eliminating the racket department, the stock was somewhat changed into that of a general line of dry goods and groceries, and much enlarged the business. W. C. McCall then succeeded Mr. Dale as general manager.

Since then their trade has much enlarged, until, from one of the smallest, the firm has become one among the strongest and most successful in the city.

The causes are: Constantly persevering work; living up to liberal advertising; honest value for your money principles.

The daintiest notions, finest dress goods to the most substantial articles of every-day wear are found in their stock. There are several lines that are kept full to suit the trade: groceries, shoes, gentlemen's furnishings and clothing, hardware.

The three brothers, Will, Clarence and Herbert McCall, are ever glad to suit customers at their counters.

The Flemming-Eagle Hotel, Marion, N. C.

The hypen in the double name of this hotel means much. It explains that two hotel buildings, side by side, have been combined under one management—that of the Gruber Family.

Mr. S. F. E Gruber came here with his family about three years ago, leasing the Flemming Hotel. His successful management secured for him the renting of the Eagle Hotel also some ten months ago. There are thirty guests' rooms in the two buildings, besides offices, parlors, sample rooms for the display of drummers' goods, and for the culinary department. Servants are attentive and experienced.

Free hacks for guests meet the trains.

Besides the head of the family mentioned, it consists of Mrs. Gruber, Misses Camile, Annie, Marie, and little Josie, with Claud, Will and Steve. They all traveled for some years as the Gruber Concert Company, being a noted musical family. Good feeding and lodging for the money have made them succeed in hotel keeping also. They look after all the work of the hotel, and work themselves. They can fill with music likewise.

Here is the drummer's home. The prices are reasonable.

Season boarders, summer and winter tourists given special rates. Correspondence solicited as to terms, etc.

The Commercial Bank of Marion.

B. B. Price, president; Geo. I. White, cashier; W. A. Conley, J. L. Morgan, W. McD. Burgin, Joe C. Brown, M. F. Morphew, Geo. I. White, E. J. Justice, B. B. Price, directors. Capital paid in, $10,000; individual worth of stockholders, $150,000. Exchange bought and sold and a general banking business conducted; interest bearing certificates of deposit issued. Accounts of corporations, firms and individuals are solicited. Surplus and undivided profits, $1,200; average deposits, $20,000; average loans, $20,000.

In February, 1896 (the first month of business), the loans were $4,638.05; deposits, $5,906.66. On December 31, 1896, the loans had increased to $17,449.77, and the deposits to $18,432.27. The increase of business has been and is constant month by month. The moral and financial integrity of the officers and directors of the bank are unquestioned. Funds may well be deposited with it for safekeeping and for drawing interest. A prosperous future opens before this institution.

Marion Furniture Company.

The officers of the company are: W. A. Conley, president; Dr. M. F. Morphew, secretary and treasurer; D. R. Raper, general manager.

This is the pioneer factory of the kind in Marion It was first stocked at $8,500, the charter privileges to increase to $25,000. Steam was turned on in September, 1896 From that time the factory has been constantly in operation—for several months on extra time to keep up with orders.

The main building is 50 by 100 feet; one shed 30 feet square; dry kiln, 25 by 50 feet; finishing room, 50 by 100 feet; two stories high. The plant is to be enlarged. From 25 to 50 operatives are employed.

The product is a medium grade of oak, poplar and imitation walnut bedsteads, washstands, bureaus and chamber suits.

The plant contains the latest up-to date woodworking machinery to be had, operated by skilled workmen.

Having the advantage of the competing rates of two railroads, and being in the finest and best timbered section of our southland, they can furnish different grades of goods at the lowest prices.

Their measures of goods and late designs give satisfaction The furniture is packed and delivered by experienced workmen.

After about six months of manufacturing, stock was taken to know the amount of profit. It was found that, after having met expenses, a dividend of 25 per cent. had been assured. At once it was determined to increase the stock to $15,000.

At a meeting of the directors on last Wednesday this was found to be the satisfactory status of the business.

As was expected from such a location as Marion for a furniture factory, the future of the business is a flattering one.

Marion most highly prizes her manufactories that turn raw material into articles of commerce and give the unemployed work.

This successful ending of the *first* six months of the business is very gratifying to all concerned and to the community, and reflects credit on the skill of General Manager D. R. Raper.

☞ Base ball goods and hammocks at Swindell's.

☞ Get a perfect fit in spectacles at Swindell's.

The Farmers' Mutual FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY Of North Carolina.

FARMERS, READ THIS!

We give the evidence of those gentlemen who are members of the Catawba and Burke Branch of the Farmers' Mutual. What better evidence do you need in regard to the Association? Nothing beats actual experience.

Many of the leading men and most prosperous farmers are members and others are joining. Now is the time to investigate the matter; you may save a house by acting now. Yours truly,

HASKINS & SHERRILL,
Agents,
Newton, N. C.

FONTA FLORA,
Burke County, N. C.

Rev. M. A. Abernethy, Secretary and Treasurer, Farmers' Mutual, Catawba and Burke Branch:

DEAR SIR:—I have just received a check from Mr. M. O. Sherrill for $69.12, balance in full of the $385, the amount paid to me on my loss by fire, which occurred January 15th, 1897. My dwelling house (comparatively new) and smoke house, with nearly all the contents, were destroyed. Of course my loss was a great deal more than $385, but that amount was all that the Farmers' Mutual was bound for. I cannot find words with which to express my gratitude to you, Mr. Sherril, and Sheriff Lackey, Supervisor McGimsey, and the members of the Farmers' Mutual, for such promptness in adjusting, collecting, and paying the claim. And to to those friends in Morganton and my Burke county friends and neighbors, who were not members of our Association, who helped me, I want to express grateful thanks.

And to my fellow farmers I want to say, if you have not insured in the Farmers' Mutual, do so at once, for in this way we can assist the unfortunate in a systematic way. Suppose I had not been a member of the Farmers' Mutual, to day I would have been almost ruined. Now I am preparing to rebuild.

I have just learned that Mr. Joe Dixon, of Caldwell county, had his barn, forage and three mules burnt up last week, and no insurance. I give this case as in contrast with my own loss. Were he a member of the Farmers' Mutual he would receive needed assistance.

I have felt that it was my duty to say this much to the public in regard to the Farmers' Mutual, because it has been a blessing to me and my family, and it is but just and right to say so.

S. R. MOORE.

March 18th, 1897.

HICKORY, N. C., March, 1897.

To Whom It May Concern:

In October, 1895, I had my barn, three head of horses, three cows, feed cutter, wheat harvester, mower rake, farming tools, buggy harness, wagon harness and plow gears destroyed by fire. My loss was about $650. I had no insurance on the above property, except the barn; on that I had insurance for $150 in the Catawba and Burke Branch of the Farmers' Mutual. The Association was in its infancy at that time, the capital stock being only about $45,000, but the members paid in promptly and the $150 was a great blessing to me in rebuilding barn and replacing my losses. I understand now that the capital stock of our Branch is about $400,000 (and that most of our leading farmers are into it). I recommend the Farmers' Mutual to my fellow farmers, for no one can tell when he may be visited by fire, wind or lightning. Fraternally,

N. W. PROPES.

SEE WHAT REV. C. M. MURCHISON HAS TO SAY OF THE "FARMERS' MUTUAL."

PENELOPE, N. C., Oct. 2, 1896

Rev. M. A. Abernethy, Secretary and Treasurer Farmers' Mutual, Catawba and Burke Branch, Newton, N. C.:

DEAR SIR:—I am in receipt of your favor enclosing amount due me from the Farmers' Mutual. I had a double room building used by students who board themselves; I had it insured in the Farmers' Mutual for about one fourth of its value, (it cost me about $150 when built) and on August 28, 1896, it was burned, and now in less than six weeks I have my money. I am very much pleased with the working of the Farmers' Mutual, and do not hesitate to recommend it to my farmer friends as the best and cheapest insurance they can get, and it affords an opptunity to aid a brother who may sustain a loss. You and the Association have my thanks for promptness in paying my insurance.

C. M. MUSCHISON.

TRAVELERS, LOOK TO YOUR INTEREST!

While 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 Feed Stable is run in connection with the Hotel.

REUBEN J. YOUNG, Proprietor.

Bakersville, Mitchell Co., N. C., Oct. 2, 1896.

JAMES B. SWINDELL,

WATCHES . . WATCH REPAIRING:
The Best Work
CLOCKS . . . At Low Prices.
JEWELRY . . SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
SPECTACLES . Prompt Attention to Mail Custom.

MARION, - - - N. C.

A Friendly Chat.

Be ye not deceived; there is only ONE PLACE IN TOWN to buy strictly Up-to-Date Dress Goods. Our line this season FAR SURPASSES our former efforts in Style, Quality, Quantity and Price. We have them, and stacks of them, all fresh, new and not an ugly piece in the store. Remember we never carry over goods from one season to another. So you need not expect to get OLD styles. We claim to have the Very Latest, and while North was placed in position to know and see the styles, and we have them in our store. Every woman in McDowell, Mitchell, Yancey and Rutherford counties have a cordial invitation to call and examine them for themselves.

Yours truly,

A. Blanton.

If Dysart Sells It,

You May Know It is Good and Not Too High.

DO YOU WANT TO DRESS WELL?

Then see our new line of Spring Goods: Tennis cloth for evening dresses, Irish dress linen, lawns, plaids, silks for any purpose, calicoes, dotted swiss and trimmings; general line of Gentlemen's Negligee Shirts.

Also, Shoes (the Douglass Shoes), Hardware, Farming Implements, Harness Goods and Saddles, Lime and Cement, and Groceries.

J. S. DYSART.

Marion, N. C., March 22, 1897.—tf.

Stop, Look, Read and Examine.

My Spring and Summer Line of Clothing

Just to hand. I can sell you a nice suit at from $3.25 up.

Shoes

From the smalles to the largest, and as cheap as you will buy them in Marion or elsewhere.

I just will not be undersold. Come and try me.

Marion, N. C., March, 1897.

E. L. GASTON.

THE

. . . **Latest Thing Out** . . .

Our New Spring Stock.

The latest styles in Dress Goods and Gents' Furnishing Goods. Under new management. Goods will be sold cheaper than ever before.

QUICK SALES AND SMALL PROFITS.

It will be to your advantange to see our new stock of Ginghams, Prints, Satines, Lawns, Cordova Welts, Percales and Kid Gloves.

We have the largest stock of Dry Goods, Notions, Hardware, Wood and Tinware, Trunks, Stoves, Hats, Shoes, Clothing and Groceries on hand than ever before.

We make a specialty of Shoes and Clothing. Come and see us.

Yours truly,

Mrs. J. C. McCURRY.

H. Redwood & Co.,

Asheville, N. C.

Large lines, carefully selected, of Clothing, Dry Goods, Underwear, Fancy Goods, Small Wares, Ribbons, Laces, Embroideries, Shoes, Parasols, Trunks, Bags, &c., &c.

Butterick Patterns.

To all the goods above mentioned, and many more, we give close attention, and, as a consequence, distribute them widely.

Mail orders filled without delay.

ONE PRICE SYSTEM,