

THE COURIER.

J. D. BOONE, EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: ONE YEAR, \$1.00; SIX MONTHS, .60.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1897.

TIME TO CALL A HALT.

"In the western part of North Carolina there are several counties and almost inaccessible mountains of which there is less known to the outside world than there is of Central Africa. The climate is unequalled in America. The scenery rivals that of Switzerland. Magnificent bodies of marble, iron and gold; thousands of acres of the finest timber that ever grew, beautiful valleys, where cattle could roam the year around without need of cover—all there exist. Yet the natives of the country are probably the most ignorant in the United States. They have absolutely no knowledge of the world outside of their own communities. The Mormons, at their worst, are said to be far higher in the scale of morality. Polygamy is practiced with shameless openness, and the marriage ceremony itself is rare. Missionaries are needed as badly as in any district of the world."

The above is from an article which was published in a recent issue of the Pittsburg Sunday Dispatch and is a fair sample of the kind of stuff that appears often in the Northern papers lately about our people. It has only been about three weeks since Mrs. W. T. Crawford, of this place, took to task, through these columns, one Dr. Bancroft, a preacher of New York, who was writing just such lies in the Christian Herald. The thing is getting monotonous and we are sick and tired of it; but again our people must be defended against such cowardly insults and lying misrepresentations.

The writer was good enough to tell the truth about our climate, scenery, timber and mineral interests, but when it came to the natives, he must turn his venomous lying tongue against them. He says they "are probably the most ignorant in the United States." But he makes it worse. It is bad enough to be called ignorant, but he goes further and says we are really wicked and immoral; that we care nothing for the marriage rites and vows, and that we are even worse than the Mormons.

How is that, Western North Carolinians, for a lie? You like that sort of complimentary talk, don't you? That's the kind of Yankee you love, isn't it? Nit.

The writer of the above quoted paragraph was either a very ignorant person, pretending to be authority on ignorance, or else he is a rascal who is trying to defame a people that will vie with and surpass him in decency and morals. We take it for granted that he came to some little corner of Western North Carolina for his health and because he was required to be decent and pay his board bill the "climate" didn't quite agree with him; so he returned to his native heath to vent his spleen on a people superior to himself in intelligence and morals—and hence the advertisement above.

Lynchings are far apart in our beautiful "land of the sky," but we venture if our folks, who are always kind and hospitable to strangers, knew the fellows who intended to write such lies about them, there would be an occasional "shuffling off of this mortal coil" before the lies reached the printer.

No one who has lived among the natives of Western North Carolina for any length of time would endorse any such stuff.

Our beautiful farms and comfortable homes surpass, in fact, those of Eastern Carolina, the birthplace of the writer. We have lived in both ends of the State, so we speak from personal knowledge. According to population we will surpass our Eastern neighbors in education; and when it comes to religion and morals—the purity of our women—we challenge the whole world to surpass us. Divorce cases are very rare in our section and "polygamy" is almost unheard-of. Why is it that men can lie on communities without being mo-

lest when they dare not single out an individual for such a purpose? We suppose it is because no one person becomes sufficiently interested to push matters. We are going to make an effort this once to find out the author and if we discover him we promise to make it interesting for him.

It is now President McKinley. Yesterday "Your uncle Grover" stepped down and out and Major Wm. McKinley was sworn in as President of this great American Republic for a term of four years. Mr. McKinley will not differ much from the retiring President in his policies, unless it be on the tariff question. They are both civil service reformers; they both represent the money interests and it is likely that this gigantic power will make itself felt and respected by the man from Ohio as it did when the ex-sheriff was the Chief-Magistrate. In addition to these influences the manufacturers have a complete hold on the incoming President—and taking all these things into consideration it looks a little blue for the poor man. But let us not despair.

We publish elsewhere the full text of a bill introduced in the Senate by our Mr. Smathers, providing for a road across Caney Fork Bald, to be built by Jackson and Haywood counties, jointly, when the commissioners of both counties levy a special tax for the building of said road. Mr. Smather's bill will be a popular one if the commissioners do their part and the people once see the road. It strikes us though that it should read "shall," instead of "may." There is no question but the kind of road intended to be built will be worth much to both counties—almost as much as a short line of railroad. We trust the commissioners will see the value of such a road and be prompt in having it built.

So far we have looked in vain to the legislature to repeal that six per cent. law. We fear it will remain on the statute books and if it does it means that we are going on paying outrageously high interest, and it will continue to make money scarce at any price. Some member has lost an opportunity to make himself glorious in securing this legislation, for the people of this State don't want this law half as bad as they thought they did. They have had a chance to see how badly the law operates.

The Commissioners will now have an opportunity to show a spirit of development in building the Caney Fork road. Let them use it.

Sketch of the 25th Regiment of North Carolina Volunteers.

(Continued from last week.)

The regiment, with the brigade, was attached to Walker's Division in the Maryland campaign, it was placed to guard Loudon Heights to prevent the escape of the enemy from Harper's Ferry. When it was first made known to the men by Gen. Lee's order that the army was to cross the Potomac there was a considerable murmur of disappointment in ranks. The men said they had volunteered to resist invasion and not to invade, some did not believe it right to invade Northern territory, others thought that the same cause that brought the Southern army to the front would increase the Northern army, still others thought the war should be carried into the North; thus the men thought, talked and disagreed. This was the first dissension among the men of the regiment, but all were united in their confidence and love for Lee.

At Sharpsburg the regiment was put into action near the extreme left of Lee's line. Our troops were retreating in front of a determined charge on the enemy, the men passed through the retreating troops, raised the yell, and charged with a determination that drove the enemy from the field to cover of his heavy works.

Camping equipments had been left behind at Richmond, and frequently on the march the men had to resort to ramrods for baking purposes and forked sticks for the roast, blankets and change

of clothing had been left at Sharpsburg, and when the men re-crossed the Potomac they were without blankets and bare of clothing, this was late in September and the Regiment did not receive the blankets till some time in October. The beds were roomy but cool.

After remaining in the Shenandoah Valley for some time the regiment marched to Madison Court House, where it bivouaced and there drew a supply of clothing and blankets, then marched to Fredericksburg. The winter at Fredericksburg was cold, shelters were made of pine brush, log fires built in front, and with an additional supply of blankets and clothing, which most men received from home, the men were fairly comfortable.

On the eleventh and twelfth of December 1862 the regiment was in position back of Mayers House. About eleven o'clock on the morning of the thirteenth, Gen. Robt. Ransom informed the regiment that Gen. Cobb's men who were holding our line in front of Mayers House, were short of ammunition and must be reinforced, and that the undertaking was a dangerous one; the men fully understanding the importance and danger of the duty moved forward with a firm and steady step, like patriots to battle. On reaching the crest of the hill (the regiment having been divided so as to pass the house on either side) it met a fearful fire from the enemy two hundred yards off. In casting an eye along the line men could be seen falling like sheaves before the sickle. In less than two minutes the regiment's loss in killed and wounded was one hundred and twenty. It reached Cobb's line just as his men were emptying their last cartridge, and held the line, repelling six successive assaults, until relieved at night-fall.

During the winter of '62 and '63 the regiment was stationed at Kenansville, Wilmington, and other places in North Carolina. The fall and winter of '63 the regiment was stationed at Garrisburg, from which place it made several excursions to check the advances of the enemy on the coast of North Carolina, but did not see much hard service until the spring of '64. In October 1863 a detachment of the regiment under Lieut. Col. Bryson, had an engagement at Hot Springs in Madison county, North Carolina. The enemy outnumbered them twenty to one, and the loss of the attachment in killed and wounded was heavy, including Lieut. Hyatt, of Company F, who was killed on the field.

In April 1864 the regiment participated in the assault and capture of Plymouth, N. C.

During the Virginia and Maryland campaigns Col. Rutledge had so endeared himself to the noncommissioned officers and privates of his regiment, by his courage and kindness, that they presented him a fine saddle horse, not allowing the commissioned officers to bear any part of the expense or take any part in the presentation ceremonies.

Gen. Robt. Ransom was promoted Major General, and Col. Matthew W. Ransom, of the 35th, was promoted to Brigadier General and assigned to the command of the brigade. Gen. Matthew Ransom was a lawyer, very handsome in appearance, of undoubted courage and knew the temper of volunteer soldiers. The men of the regiment loved him and trusted him.

The regiment was engaged at Drewry's Bluff on the twelfth of May, 1874, in which engagement Company F lost Lieut. Ebed J. Ferguson, killed, and six noncommissioned officers and privates wounded; and participated in the engagements at Weir Bottom Church and Bermuda Hundred.

On the sixteenth of June the regiment crossed to the South of the Appomattox for the defence of Petersburg and entered at once into the fight in front of Avery's House, and checked the advance of the enemy who was driving back the Petersburg militia, the only protection to the city at that time. On the night of the seventeenth the regiment participated in

the engagement at Avery's Farm, and drove the enemy from their breastworks at the point where the 25th made its attack.

[To be continued next week.]

Our Agent at Large.

Dear Readers:—The editor thinks I have now become an important part of the COURIER, and says I must write a little as well as to collect a heap. Well, I suppose I can write a few lines occasionally, but would rather write receipts, you bet.

Old Dinah and I are having some famous trips through the mud together, but I have decided that if she can stand it I ought to. We have just finished up a round in Haywood, and now for Jackson. We ought to do well over there, for the Sylva Democrat has suspended and that county, I am told, contains many good and prosperous citizens who know a good thing when they see it. However, we will try them and see.

It might be well to mention in passing that we struck up with God's best people in our round through Haywood. While at Dellwood we found lodging at Mr. Joe Liner's one night, and found him to be a very entertaining and clever gentleman. Mr. R. V. Hawkins cared for Dinah and myself another night. He is one of Fines Creek's best men. Mr. John Henry at Dellwood gave us a splendid dinner one day, although he was too unwell to eat much himself. We hope he is better by this time. County commissioner Queen, who lives on Pigeon river near the "bend," entertained us handsomely at dinner one day on our trip.

It has been so long since we made the first part of the round that I have forgotten some things that would probably be of interest. Next time we shall be on the lookout for news as well as cash.

We were kindly cared for at the noon meal a few days ago at Dr. C. B. Roberts' hospitable home at Clyde, while clever Bailey Jones fed Dinah; and when we reached Canton, the Riverside House, kept by Mr. and Mrs. Miller, had nothing too good for us. Several good people at Clyde and Canton divided their silver with us. The most of them like the paper and will continue as subscribers, while many new ones join our growing list for this first year of the Reign of McKinley. We came back from Canton via Sonoma, up the beautiful Pigeon, whose waters are clear as crystal and pure as one could imagine. We found some elegant farms on our trip and some energetic, intelligent farmers in charge of them we found Mr. J. R. Trull of Garden creek going to Greenville, S. C. with live stock, apples, tobacco, etc., which he expects to market at great advantage.

Miss Ann'e Plott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pinger Plott, is at the point of death, and is hardly expected to live.

By the way, friends, you rarely see such beautiful territory as one may feast his eyes on around Sonoma. The Sonoma valley is beautiful to behold and very fertile and productive. More next time. G. H. C.

A BILL

To be Entitled An Act to Authorize the Board of Commissioners of Haywood and Jackson Counties to Levy a Special Tax to Construct a Road Across Caney Fork Bald.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

SECTION 1. The Board of Commissioners of Haywood and Jackson counties may at their discretion at any year hereafter at the time prescribed by law for levying taxes, levy a tax of not less than ten cents nor more than twenty cents on the hundred dollars worth of property (the constitutional equation to be observed between the property and poll) to be used and expended under the direction of said Commissioners in their respective counties in the construction of a public road leading from Allen's Fork of Richland Creek in Haywood county across the Balsam range of mountains near Caney Fork Bald to Caney Fork Creek in Jackson county.

Sec. 2. That the tax levied

by the Board of Commissioners in one of the said counties shall not be available for the purpose of constructing said road in that county until the Board of Commissioners in the other county shall have provided for the construction of said road by taxation or otherwise in such other county.

SEC. 3. That said road shall have a width of not less than sixteen feet, except in places where the roadway must be blasted out in hard rock, and through such places the width of said road shall not be less than twelve feet; and the maximum grade of said road shall not exceed one foot in twenty (1 in 20) except that where insurmountable obstructions make this grade impracticable the grade may be increased to a maximum of one foot in fifteen (1 in 15) for distances not greater than one hundred (100) feet in any one place.

SEC. 4. That said road provided for in this act shall be lo-

cated by a competent engineer experienced in such work; to be employed and paid by the county Commissioners of Haywood county for the work done in Haywood county, and by the Commissioners of Jackson county for the work done in Jackson county, out of funds provided for in Section one of this Act, in the respective counties, by order of the County Commissioners.

SEC. 5. This bill shall be in effect from and after its ratification.

Dr. Cady's Condition Remedies, are just what a horse needs when in bad condition. Tonic, blood purifier and vermifuge. They are not food but medicine and the best in use to put a horse in prime condition. Price of bottles and postage.

From every where come word of praise for Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. "Allow me to congratulate you on the merits of your Remedy. It cured me of chronic bronchitis when the doctor could do nothing for me." —CHAS. F. HEMEL, Toledo, O. For sale by David Way, Druggist.

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With careful rotation of crops and liberal fertilizations, cotton lands will improve. The application of a proper fertilizer containing sufficient Potash often makes the difference between a profitable crop and failure. Use fertilizers containing not less than 3 to 4%

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CLOVER, TIMOTHY, RED TOP, ORCHARD GRASS, BLUE GRASS. PREMIUM BRAND BONE MEAL, ACID PHOSPHATE, LAND PLASTER. All high-grade goods.

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We still have a good stock of Clothing, Hats, Shoes, Dry Goods, Etc., at reduced prices that will pay you to examine.

CANVAS CLOTH, for Plant Beds. Will sell as the Eastern markets, to Merchants as cheap.

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Never was the time when builders' hardware could be bought so low as now. You can get Nails now at the unheard-of price of 24 cents per pound. Every farmer wants more or less nails, especially so at this season of the year. Come in and get a few kegs at these prices and you will save 25 to 50 per cent. on what you have been paying. In what better way can you practice economy? And these prices can't last, from the fact that nails are now bought for less than the cost of manufacture. "A word to the wise is sufficient."

Horse Shoes, Mule Shoes, Collars, Pads, Singletrees, Harness, Traces, Clevises, Etc. Cook Stoves, Heaters, Stove Furniture and Our Own Make Tinware, any one piece of which we guarantee to outlast SIX of Manufactured Ware. Lamp Goods, P. T. Chimneys, 160 Test Oil.

SYRACUSE PLOWS

Nos. 93, 94, and 95 on level land, and Nos. 46, 36, 26, 126 and 116 in hillside plowing. If you need a Plow, just ask your neighbor how he likes the Syracuse. He has it, and will tell you it is the BEST PLOW he ever hitched to. We keep the GENUINE Extras, made from pure charcoal iron, and as low in price, in fact LOWER, than you pay for imitation points in various other places.

In fact, if you need ANYTHING in the HARDWARE line, we have it—BEST Quality Goods, and at Prices that Defy Competition.

Respectfully, WHITE & LEWIS.