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NEWS OF THE STATE.

Items of Interest from North Carolina Points. Gen. M. W. Ransom was 66 years old on the 8th inst., and has been in the Senate 21 years.

W. B. Edwards, colored, has been lodged in jail at Rutherfordford charged with beating his wife to death.

The Citizen states that Asheville is soon to have a cold storage warehouse with a capacity of 500 hives and 300 sheep.

W. H. Ramsay, Third party candidate for sheriff of Carteret county, has withdrawn and will vote the Democratic ticket.

Reynolds, white, and Headen, colored, the murderers of old man Swain, of Guilford, were hanged at Greensboro last Thursday.

Harnett county court house, situated in the town of Lillington, was destroyed by fire on the morning of the 15th. Nothing was saved. The fire is supposed to have been incendiary.

The Southern Tobacco Journal, of Winston, says it has been boycotted by the American Tobacco Company (alias the American tobacco trust) because it has persistently fought the trust.

Jas. Wells, an inmate of the Baptist Orphanage at Thomasville, died a few days ago. Charity and Children says the cause of his death was eating dirt and that he begged for it while he was dying.

In Harnett county there lives a man, himself a twin who married a twin. His mother is the mother of ten children, five boys and five girls. So is hers—his mother twice gave birth to twins, as did hers also.

Cards are out announcing the marriage of Miss Sude Cain to Mr. J. M. Green, at St. Phillip's church, Durham, on the evening of Wednesday, October 26th. The Observer says the bride is a relative of Mrs. Walter Brem, of Charlotte. She is therefore also a relative of Mrs. Collett, of Morganton.

There were 67,000,000 pounds of leaf tobacco sold on North Carolina markets during the year ending Sept. 30th. These figures do not include North Carolina leaf sold in Virginia markets. Winston's sales were 16,884,345 pounds an increase of 797,972 over the previous year.

The New Bern Journal says: "Oysters have not been coming into our market as plentiful as they should thus late in the season. Fine ones in the shell command \$1 per bushel, and opened ones have not sold for less than 75 cents per gallon. We see that at Beaufort hucksters are delivering them in any part of the town at 10 cents per quart."

Mr. J. S. Carr, of Durham, has presented the trustees of Davidson College with ten shares of stock in the Durham Fertilizer Company. These shares are of the par value of \$100 each, so Mr. Carr's donation to Davidson College amounts to \$1,000. When it is remembered that Davidson College is a Presbyterian institution, and that Mr. Carr is a member of the Methodist Church, his generosity in this instance is the more remarkable.

The State Chronicle says the postmistress at Kenansville, Duplin county, who has held the office for several years and given perfect satisfaction, is a lady of high personal character, has been removed, and in her place an ignorant, uncouth negro man has been appointed. The negro could not give the bond and in order to "get him in" the bond was reduced. The citizens are indignant but they have a poor way of helping themselves.

The Winston Sentinel says that P. F. Gordon, a colored man about fifty years of age, whose skin has been turning from black to white for the past fifteen years, has returned to Winston from High Point. Gordon says that he was born in Petersburg, Va. There is now not a single spot on his body. The only marks left to show that he is a member of the African race, are on the back of his neck. The case is a remarkable one and excites the curiosity of every person whom Gordon meets.

A sad and horrible accident occurred Sunday night of last week at Mt. Nebo, in Yadkin county. A young man named Shugart called to see his sweetheart, a Miss Pardue, on the evening mentioned. Shortly after calling Miss Pardue escorted her sweetheart into the parlor. In a few minutes he pulled a pistol from his pocket, and, after removing the cartridges, began snapping it at the young lady. She presently took the pistol from him and began snapping it at him. While they were thus amusing themselves a noise was heard on the outside of the house. Shugart loaded his pistol and went out to investigate. Finding nothing he returned and laid his pistol on the table. Miss Pardue forgetting that the cartridges had been replaced, picked up the pistol and pointing it at Shugart, pulled the trigger with fearful result. The ball entered the young man's face just above the chin and ranged through the mouth into his head. A physician was immediately sent for, but the last report received was that the wounded man could not possibly live. Miss Pardue is almost frantic with grief.

THE GIDEONITES.

THE SECRET OATH BOUND POLITICAL ORGANIZATION EXPOSED. S. Otho Wilson, Chairman of the People's Party, Chief—Thirty Reliable in each County—Three Hundred in Each Congressional District—Twenty-five Hundred in the State.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Oct. 7, '92.

Dear Sir:—I have your recent favor enquiring about my connection with the order known as Gideon's Band, and in answer would say: S. Otho Wilson initiated me in the order of Gideonites at Goldsboro, in August, 1891, on my return from the State Alliance, which met at Morehead. He kept the obligation I took and I do not know its exact terms, but will assure you it was a regular "raw head and bloody bones" affair. I was ashamed of it as soon as I found out what it was, and have had nothing to do with it since. I had known before hand what it was I would not have joined it. But Wilson told me it was a good thing and would aid the Alliance cause, and being an earnest Allianceman I joined.

As soon as I thought about it after having learned what it was, I saw it was a dangerous thing, and no honest man could have anything to do with it.

Tom Long told me the other day I was the cause of the Third party being a failure up here. I reckon he had reference to my failure to work and fight in Gideon's army.

The plan of the Gideon's Band, I remember it, is about this. There is a State Chief, who was at that time as I understood, S. Otho Wilson; there is also a Chief in each Congressional district; and a sub-Chief in each county, whose duty is to obey and have executed the orders of their immediate Chief, they getting their orders from the State Chief. A failure to obey is made in the obligation a very serious offence. There are three hundred members of the band in each Congressional district—the number in each county I have forgotten.

I am thoroughly impressed with the idea that this is a dangerous order if it is being worked in North Carolina. About this I don't know, because, as I said, I concluded to have nothing to do with it as soon as I learned what it meant, and as I came out strong for the Democrats soon after I was initiated by Mr. S. Otho Wilson I suppose they became afraid of me. At least Wilson did not send the papers he said he would send to me.

Yours truly, M. L. REED,

BELL CROSS, Camden Co., N. C., October 12th, 1892.

Han. F. M. Simmons, Chairman, Raleigh, N. C.

My Dear Sir:—Answering your favor of recent date, which you ask me to give you for publication what I know about an order in North Carolina known as the "Gideon Band," I would say, at Gatesville, in Gates county, in December, 1891, Mr. S. Otho Wilson in the presence of Mr. Jas. B. Brinson, of Pamlico county (District Lecturer for the First District), I being then State Lecturer, proposed to me that I should become a member of the said order. I replied to Mr. Wilson that I could not consent to connect myself with the Band unless he would first reveal to me the character and purpose of the order. This he consented to do upon my promise to secrecy. Mr. Wilson then read to me the obligations he wished me to take, and outlined the general objects and purposes of the order.

The obligation was a very rigid one, and according to my best recollection the penalty of a disclosure of the secrets of the organization was death.

The plan of organization was as follows: A National Chief, a State Chief, a District Chief and a County Chief. The State Chief received his orders from the National Chief; the District Chief from the State Chief, and the County Chief from the District Chief. The membership in each Congressional district was 300, and in each county, I think, no more than 30. This thirty were to be especially selected for their efficiency and influence, true and tried men who could be relied upon under all circumstances, in all meetings, etc.

It was the duty of these chiefs and members to obey and execute all orders emanating from their superiors. Mr. Wilson stated that the object of the organization was to aid and promote the Reform movement. The initiation fee was \$2.00. This conversation took place after Mr. Wilson's return from the Indianapolis Alliance Council.

After Mr. Wilson had revealed the whole thing to me, I told him I regarded the movement, as outlined by him, as being a very dangerous one, and that I thought it would result in the destruction of the Alliance and the defeat of the Reform movement then proposed. I positively refused to have anything to do with it. Mr. Wilson then burned in my presence the obligation which he had read to me, and pretended he was merely considering the advisability of organizing the order, although I have since learned he had initiated Mr. M. L. Reed, of Buncombe, during the previous August, and appointed him chief in the Ninth Congressional district.

During this conference Mr. Wilson stated to Mr. Brinson that he

had selected him to be chief in the First Congressional district.

Yours respectfully, J. S. BELL,

[Signed]

Mr. Editor:—Through the medium of the press I desire to lay before the people of North Carolina two letters recently addressed to me by Mr. M. L. Reed, a member of the present House of Representatives, and a prominent member of the Alliance, and Mr. J. S. Bell, a member of the present State Senate, and recently State Alliance Lecturer, disclosing the existence in his State of an unlawful and dangerous secret political society, whose chief is S. Otho Wilson, the official head of the People's party in North Carolina.

The letters show conclusively that this society did exist in this State but recently, and if it has ceased to exist, the duty of showing this fact rests upon the men who it is shown introduced it.

In exposing this dangerous scheme to the liberties of the people and the peace and good will of society, these gentlemen but discharge a plain duty of good citizenship. The facts which they have disclosed clear the mist from the present anomalous political situation in North Carolina,



A COLD DAY AND VERY LITTLE PROTECTION.

and explain many things connected therewith, otherwise unaccountable because so radically at variance with all the known characteristics of our people. It accounts for the refusal on the part of many of those supposed to be under the influence of this society to hear discussion upon important questions affecting vitally their highest interests; it accounts for their refusal to read literature not having the stamp and sanction of the leaders in this movement; it accounts for their bad temper and the absence in their political conduct of that independence and conservatism which has ever been a distinguished characteristic of the North Carolina "breed" wherever found; it accounts for the automatic and subservient manner in which in their political evolutions the move and act; it accounts for the remark we frequently hear coming from the simpler but more honest of these people to the effect that they cannot do what they know and admit to be their political duty because they have sworn to do otherwise; and it accounts for the humiliating fact that a people hitherto brave and free have surrendered their independence and ceased to act as free men should.

I need not go into an explanation of how these results might logically flow from the means employed, for every intelligent man will readily understand how easily a few men acting together in secret under common orders and to a common end may shape and direct the action of a multitude, each individual acting for himself.

As the existence of this secret society, acting upon and directing the political convictions of these people accounts for the eccentricities which have marked their recent conduct, so that conduct corroborates and supports the evidence I now lay before the people proof of its active existence in our midst.

The presence here of the Band of Gideon recalls all too vividly the "Union League, or Heroes of America," that night-mare of 1865, which in the name of charity and in the form of benevolence became the secret auxiliary of a corrupt political party, and brought every home and fireside in the land under the shadow of a hand which neither the laws of God or man could stay against the inexorable command of the invisible chief. I will be recalled how under the fostering care of that party that terrible organization gained such ascendancy here that it required a counter secret society and all but revolution to break its hold upon the liberties of our people.

It was thought both of these societies and all similar organizations admittedly dangerous in a free country like ours, had been crushed out in North Carolina never to return again. The rigorous laws against secret political association now upon our statute books were placed there with the experience of those days fresh in the minds of our people, and express their determination never

again to tolerate in our midst such a menace to liberty.

Both of these societies, the one aimed, and the one which now defies it are foreign in origin, and were born of disorders and agitations from which we are happily exempt.

The "Union League" was of Northern birth, begotten of the troublous times which immediately preceded its introduction here, and the "Gideon's Band" is the offspring of that wild recklessness which characterizes the incongruous nationalities which constitute the lower strata of western metropolitan life, and which now and then breaks forth in Haymarket riots and Mafia butcheries.

A man better acquainted than Mr. Wilson with the sentiments of our people would not have attempted to transplant and introduce here an institution so obnoxious to our most cherished conceptions and ideas of free, open and honorable political action. If he was himself imbued with the wild vagaries and methods of the "Orders" and "Unions" with which he was thrown in contact on his visit to the West immediately preceding his overtures to Mr. Bell, his better judgment

should have taught him they were out of joint with the pre-conceived notions of our people, and could only result in injury to the cause he wished to advance. There have been many rumors and whisperings of the existence here of this dangerous "Band," but until the letters of Messrs. Bell and Reed there was no tangible evidence; and I now submit these proofs with full confidence that the conservatism of our people will not be slow to repudiate it, and fittingly rebuke the desperate agitators and demagogues who dared introduce it.

F. M. SIMMONS, Chairman Dem. State Ex. Com.

GENERAL NEWS.

A Few of the Week's Interesting Happenings. Telephone communication is now open between Chicago and New York city at \$10.00 a talk.

Moses Lull, of Lynn Mass., bought a horse for 75 cents and was fined \$20 and costs for cruelty to animals in driving him home.

President Harrison has issued a proclamation opening to settlement the Crow Indian reservation in Montana—aggregating about 1,800,000 acres.

Handmaster D. W. Reeves, of the American Band of Providence, E. I., has accepted the offer to become the leader of Gilmore's Band of New York city.

A paper at Homestead, Pa., which has championed the cause of the workingmen all through the strike at Carnegie's mills, now declares the strike lost.

A search is being made in the MeAlpine addition to Kansas City, Kan., for \$2,000,000 in gold and jewels believed to have been hidden by a gang of desperadoes many years ago.

The secret service division of the U. S. Treasury department is advised that a new counterfeit \$5 silver certificate was put in circulation on Oct. 11th, 1892, at Chicago, Illinois. It has the new back and is of the series 1891; check letter, C.

Two lauls at Leadville, Colo., dug two small tunnels under the house of Herman Truman and filling them with giant powder blew the house up, badly injuring Truman and his wife, shaking things up generally in a radius of several blocks and doing a considerable amount of damage. The boys cannot be found and it is supposed they were blown to atoms.

Two years ago a rich merchant of Dayton, Ohio, had a kidney removed by a Cincinnati surgeon. Recently, after a critical examination his physician decided that the surgeon had removed the sound kidney instead of the diseased one. The surgeon admits he has the kidney preserved, but refuses to return it, and recourse will be had to replevint suit. It the much-wanted kidney proves to have been sound a damage suit will follow.

Magister's Blanks in the Great Cities.

COLONEL PEARSON SPEAKS.

When He Told the People of Lower Fork Last Evening.

In filling the appointment of Hon. W. H. Bower as Lower Fork last Saturday Col. W. S. Pearson said in substance.

GENTLEMEN:—I take pleasure in appearing to-day before you as the representative of my friend Mr. Bower, who as you know is a candidate for a seat in Congress. The appointment for this speaking was made by Mr. Bower himself, when he was in the canvass in your neighbor county of Cleveland. He wrote me from Boone in Watauga county this week asking that I come here in his place and tell the people why he was not with them. His friends in Ashe and Alleghany unknown to him had made appointments in those counties for Mr. Bower, which fell on the same days with the Burke county appointments and he was loath to give up the one or the other. It was much easier for him to come here than to go there and he greatly desired to see and talk to you people face to face as a man talks to his friend; but he could not get quick news to any friend in the mountains to be substituted for him in Ashe and Alleghany and there-

fore he was forced to go himself and content yourself with no better representative in Burke than him whom you now hear. And yet, gentlemen, whatever be my failings I feel that I can say now and here with truth that I would not give you any advice or rather a word of warning that I did not in my heart believe to be best for you and your State. We have fallen upon evil days in North Carolina in this year 1892, and many good men are well nigh distracted in their search for a remedy. The people know that for 25 years they have labored harder and lived more economically, taking the mace than in any other 25 years of the State's history and yet they are not so prosperous as when they worked less and lived more extravagantly.

Undoubtedly this is true of your own knowledge. We were a lazier people before the war than we now are, less laud in cultivation and less was made on the acre that is now made, agricultural implements of improved patterns and fertilizers both home and foreign made are in more general use now than then, the negroes who were then slaves are now freemen and are more productive as freemen than they were as slaves. They, the negroes, have in large part produced the cotton crop of nine million bales, when in slavery it never exceeded half that amount. Besides, the negro is now a much larger consumer as a freeman than he was as a slave and his trade is of value as every merchant knows. Our population has largely increased, not by immigrants from Europe and the North, for there have been but few of these—but from our own prolific stock. All these facts occurring with a free climate, a fairly fertile soil, a marked exemption from any general disaster at the hands of Providence should have placed us well on the way to wealth and the results of the war should by this time with the great recuperative energy shown by the people have entirely disappeared.

I say here without fear of successful contradiction that in the ordinary course of events and permitted fairly to develop herself. The South should by this time have wholly and entirely recovered from the war, so far as relates to dollars and cents. Has she done this, has she half done it? your answer is no. Sadly you admit it and yet you cannot find the fault in yourselves. Gentlemen the fault is not in yourselves save in so far as you are responsible for the ignorance among our people as to the manner in which our national government is run and managed. Were you ever so wise you could not perhaps have seriously changed the policy of the North in the first years succeeding the war; but much ground has since been lost which it is your duty to the children of your loins and your love this year to recover. I trust and believe you will receive it. I almost know it will be recovered for you by the brave men South of you aided by your children and grandchildren in Indiana and other western

states, and it would not be decent to suppose that if you did not help in your own rescue that you would be found licking the hand that smites you and has always smitten you and your country. For this Southland is your country whatever the geographers and Republican orators may call your country. You can have no other country, which awakens the right heart there, since however, we would have it, the just has been it as I state it. We may for a while and often do so in denouncing others and we half denounce ourselves; but the cold clammy truth is that we do not regard trouble in Pennsylvania as we do trouble in South Carolina. If our boy goes to Georgia he finds friends and may word up Governor of the State; if he went to Vermont or Michigan? will there is no need to forsake him there since the insatiable laws of Providence prevent his ever causing his eyes in the direction of either of those States. I say then that our duty is first to the soil, which breeds us to the dirt hills of childhood, which form the sands that bring us health, to the neighbors who share with us the burdens of maintaining our home government, our courts, our Legislatures, our schools, our asylums, our jails and penitentiaries. We do not lose sleep when a mob breaks out in Cincinnati and burns the court house or murders policemen as they did in Chicago.

We may be sorry as we would be sorry to hear of destitute families anywhere on the earth's surface, but we are not ready to volunteer and leave home to help out these poor folks for the single reason that they are not sincerely speaking among our home folks. Why then should we lose Ohio and Illinois so well as to give them the cream of our cotton crop to pension every trembler who drove a wagon or fed a mule in the Union Army. Why should we love Vermont and Oregon so well as to hand over all the profits of our bright tobacco crop—the best tobacco by the way for general use produced in any part of the world—in order that bond holders may draw interest in gold on paper originally payable in greenbacks, or that the manufacturers should build castles from the mace to us of shoddy goods at tariff prices. You older men remember when the Confederate Congress fixed prices for the breadstuffs, which our soldiers in the field were forced to have, and which they could not obtain from a poverty stricken people at home in any other way than by impressment.

That was resented at the time as an act of the war power of our Congress based on the maxim well recognized among all nations that the safety of the State is the supreme law. Now we have in a time of profound peace twenty years since the last great war started from the fields of Virginia made immortal by his valor, a price list of articles in daily use among the people made out not in accordance with the laws of the land of Congress—all of our representatives voting against the law because you suffer in paying more than the world's market price, all or nearly all the Northern Congressmen voting for the law because their people realize the increased price of the things sold you and realize the larger part by far of all the taxes paid into the treasury on the better things brought from abroad and used by them since you are not able to afford the luxury of the best. And yet you wonder why the Yankees are rich and you are poor.

\$275,000,000 a year—it is nearly the tax-worth of our own North Carolina—are collected by Revenue officers and Custom house officers and paid out for pensions, for interest on the public debt, and for the army and navy. You pay one-third of that sum \$75,000,000 every year. When I say I mean the South. You know we get none of it back or next to none as we hold none of the debt, have few pensioners and the army and navy was till of late years closed on our people. I hear some good hearted third party man—oh, that he would wipe the fog of his spectacles and take a second and clearer look at this thing—try out. Why wouldn't a dose of free silver help us out? Why my friend it would help us just as a drink helps a drunkard. It would increase the stream for the time only to make the copper cold in the end. The drunkard always wants that remedy. The good physician except in rare cases denies it.

So long as the stream is filled by us according to our share in the partnership and is emptied in the pockets of the other fellow what difference is the long run does it make whether it is a little stream of greenbacks and gold or a big stream of free silver. We pay and the pockets and the end is the same in either case. Now in matters of Internal Revenue we have some choice. If we denied our selves whiskey with stamps on it and passed tobacco that much of our free silver could be put away in the old mother's stocking; but who can keep from buying whiskey and how can a man live without stocky ware, meat we go without hats and coats and shirts, and the child die for want of medicine, must we be held a hold right without blankets, or the woman face the wind without a shawl for the infants they carry? If we are not to go back to Indian life we must give up the free silver which our cotton and tobacco

would bring in to the same man who now takes our greenbacks and gold.

Were we any better off when cotton was so scarce a pound? The Yankee then managed to get all the good of it, first by taxing the crop to millions, then by manufacturing the crop and selling the cotton at twice made prices, then by discarding the whole government patronage to his and of the country. The greenbacks paid out here were worth to us in the dollar, when the time came to make them worth less cents by exchanging them in gold we had comparatively few of them.

They had gone where the free silver will go, North—over to some back except in the price of your country. Those people, to do them justice, are willing to take this country at a fair value if we will get out and give way to them. You recall when they ask for it in a lump. Let me assure you that you are giving it to them by piece meal and the best friend they have in the deal is the honest third party man. Ah, but they enjoy his ignorance and laugh as they play him for a sucker. Ah, it is pure business with them and him and they guess him of course before swallowing him. In their hearts the one class does love their request that iron chains snatched from Maryland to Mexico, the disciples of Jefferson and Nat Bacon, whom no politician can delude, who wins under a steel and will not compound the felony or fellowship with the felon, who stand strictly to the bond of partnership and will not take the other partner's construction, who believe in the God of the prophets and wait such patience for the disclosure of their iron from the certain bondage of McKim and the threatened bondage of the Force Bill.

You say it is only of late that I wished to be allied with these men. That is true and yet I was born one of them. They made me a wanderer and as such I wait for their folly and borrowed the intelligence which kept me away from my natural moorings. When they surrendered the colored vote, which has since remained, and rightly, too, their power to the nation, so the carpet-bagger, when they surrendered to Grant, and fought a fair for like Grant, when with Tweed at the head they decided against corruption at Washington, I found ground to hold out against them, as did most of you.

A natural instinct for consistency in the face even of changed conditions kept me yet longer in accustomed party ways and I took hope for the long delayed recognition of the South when Gen'l Harrison was elected. He was of Virginia extraction and had behind him great and patriotic traditions—all generous that he came from as the negroes of being unfriendly to a nation of which our fathers were the chief actors. There have been too instances in our history when so good a chance for permanent popularity was of not choice refused by one having the power to refuse. Also for lady McKim in 1852!

The man so aloof at the last, so conservative of every amount in the campaign, so judicious in most of his original appointments save that they were marked by pronounced sectionalism, at length grew to be an ardent South-sider, while to his own section he surrendered every interest in the money of a hundred millionaires, who promised him protection as the reward of putting the taxing power into their hands. Knowing, as both the parties to the trade did, that the man who would do the deal and not the slum taking against such reason had south of the Potomac river they desired and almost carried to completion the Force Bill, by which we were to be gagged into silence while our pockets were rifled.

It was and it and will continue to be known as a conspiracy no less lust and equally unshaky with Arnold's and Burr's and John Brown's.

The quiet country folk showed in spite that they were still to be treated with the trust of the old times in spite of the increasing witness of our large cities.

I have never doubted and beg you not to doubt that the same would be rendered this year as in the past but when those nights were at the last.

Then as now I appeared against them.

You men of Lower Fork have it in your power to show that though Republicans in the past you have not in consequence ceased to be Southerners and patriots. You have opportunity now to win and hold the good will of other townships which have looked on you as in a certain sense estranged from them by your sidewalk party creed.

I beg you not to be deceived with the moonshine reform promised by such frauds upon the creative ability as little Butler and his hired troupe of speakers, but to follow a man who is really worthy of leadership and upon whom high honor sits well and is seemly the people's candidate for President, the big hearted and big-brained New Yorker, Governor Cleveland. All praise to him for the part he has taken in behalf of the poor against the plutocrat—the deadliest enemy Liberty has or can have under the present arrangement!

Tennany Hall has nominated Thomas F. Gilsey, for Mayor of New York.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Table with 4 columns: Length, Rate per line, Rate per square, Rate per column. Includes rates for 1 inch, 2 inches, 3 inches, 4 inches, 5 inches, 6 inches, 7 inches, 8 inches, 9 inches, 10 inches.

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NOTICE. Having qualified as administrator of the estate of John Bell, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons who have claims against the said estate to present them to the undersigned at his office in Morganton, N. C., on or before the 15th day of November next.

DR. I. P. JETER DENTIST. MORGANTON, N. C. FRANK W. DWELL, Attorney-at-Law, Morganton, N. C.

J. E. ERWIN, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, MORGANTON, N. C. Office over Hugo & Huffman's Store.

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