

## ICE COLD DRINKS

Of every kind at Hall's drug store. Banana sherbet, orange, lemon and pineapple sherbet, etc., ginger ale, the very best, soda water, all flavors, coca cola, the genuine article, and many other drinks too numerous to mention.

Candies in 10c. boxes—cream almonds, peanut brittle, coconut crisp, marshmallows, chocolate cream drops, superfine caramels, bon bon drops, honey ado, etc., etc. In 25c., 50c. and \$1 boxes we have the finest candies on the market.

Cakes—a fresh lot, fit to set before a king. Try them.

Another lot of beautiful writing paper in boxes from 5c. to 50c. Tablets and envelopes to match. The best lead pencils on earth. Ink in all colors. An immense stock from 5c. bottles to quart bottles. Fountain pen ink, copying ink, indelible ink, etc., etc.

A great variety of toilet soaps, face powders, tooth powders, tooth and hair brushes. Be sure to get the baby a hair brush.

Bananas, lemons, oranges, etc., always on hand.

Why run yourself to death when you can get what you want in the drug line at Hall's drug store?

## The Prescription Department

Is under my special care. Purity, accuracy and 25 years experience is what I offer you. Send your prescriptions to me and you will get exactly what your doctor wants you to have.

### Ye Smokers!

When you spend a nickel for a smoke, you want agood one, don't you? Why of course. My line of 5c. cigars is just the best the market can afford. Sbarosas, "44's," Puerto Ricos, Havana Ribbons, Cremos, etc., all full of quality and none better. My line of chewing and smoking tobaccos is complete, and here you will find all the popular kinds, both to chew and smoke. If you are looking for the best, come here and I guarantee you can be satisfied.

My line of drugs comprises everything that is kept in an up to date drug store. If haven't got what you may want I will take pleasure in getting it for you.

## J. G. HALL, Druggist.

"We Hold Thee Safe."



### UNCLE SAM'S BANK.

THE FIRST

## National Bank,

OXFORD, N. C.

Is the bank with which to deposit your money. We issue certificates at 4 per cent. interest. STATE, COUNTY and TOWN DEPOSITORY. Come to see us and talk about it.

## J. J. MEDFORD'S Cheap Cash Store.

We give American Trading Stamps with all purchases.

\$1 shoes 50 cents; \$2 shoes \$1; W. L. Douglas Oxford ties, \$3 grade, \$2.50; \$3.50 grade \$3.

Just received full line men's and ladies' shoes, all styles and prices. Shoes are what we want to sell during July and August.

Dry Goods and Notions at bargain prices to suit. All spring and summer dress and waist gingham worth 10 to 12 1/2 cents going off at 8 while they last.

Ladies' White Oxfords 50 cents, worth \$1.25 to \$1.50.

1,000 dozen dress buttons 2 1/2 to 5 cents er dozen, worth from 5 to 25 cents.

Men's and Boys' Dress Shirts 25, 50, 75 cents and \$1.00.

Collars 5 to 10 cents, worth 10 to 15.

Shoes, shoes! Do not forget we sell shoes at all prices.

## Little Pick-ups.

Some Interesting News Items in This Column.

"His neck saved."—News & Observer. Yes, and a miscarriage of Justice.

"If all the people who give good advice would follow it themselves, the world would be full of angels."

"We are glad to know that it is no longer fashionable to call people lazy—they are only taking the 'rest cure.'"

—Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Ray have made marked improvements in the interior of their home on College street.

—During the fiscal year ending June 30, Mecklenburg county spent \$59,163.41 for public school service. A balance of \$22.44 remains on hand.

—In the red light district of Asheville, another murder was committed Sunday night, making three shootings in the same spot in less than 12 months.

—A large number of sweet lasses assembled Friday evening at the home of Miss Irene Hines and proved as merry a crowd as ever gathered together.

While attempting to cross the tracks of the Southern, at Charlotte, Monday night, Sarah Pea, colored, was run over and killed by the shifting engine.

—The Board of Education has passed an order saying that the Public Schools of the county must open between the 15th of September and 15th of October.

—Messrs. B. T. Fuller and W. S. Love, of Fishing Creek township, placed cotton blooms on our table Friday. We are glad to learn that cotton looks well in this territory.

—The Board of County Commissioners met on Monday to hear complaints as to levy of taxes. There were only a few of them and in most cases the complaints were granted.

—The past two weeks has been exceedingly pleasant for the young people of Oxford. We have within our gates a large number of fair visitors and they are being royally entertained by their respective hostesses.

—If you want to take a chance at one of the prizes offered by the Public Ledger why send in your subscription. Remember you stand a chance to get a high grade sewing machine, a cook stove and a set of china.

—State, private and savings banks summary of condition compiled by the corporation commission for the fiscal year. Capital stock \$4,771,704.66, surplus \$677,348.68, undivided profits \$954,200.24, deposits \$21,434,760.37, resources \$29,416,580.86.

—Labor Commissioner Varner says that of the 300 newspapers now in this State exactly two-thirds belong to the State Press Association, which meets at Morehead City this month. The circulation of the largest paper in North Carolina is 30,000.

—A highland moccasin created a ripple of excitement Saturday night in front of Landis & Easton's clothing store. He appeared suddenly on the sidewalk and must have crawled out of the cellar. Messrs. Pruitt and C. B. Smith were the first persons to see him and soon dispatched his snake-ship.

—Oxford is one of the healthiest places in North Carolina. There was only one death in the corporation last month that of a sweet babe. In 1902 there were only 2 deaths at the Oxford Orphan Asylum and in 1903 and thus far in 1904 only one death has occurred. How is this for a health record?

—Mr. Augustus D. Hobgood, formerly of Oxford but now of Durham, will be married to-day to Miss Julia Armistead, of Roanoke, Va., Mr. Baldy Hobgood is in attendance upon the marriage. The Public Ledger joins their many friends in extending congratulations and wish for them all the happiness that life can give.

—It will be seen by reference to another column that Mr. John S. Watkins, one of the excellent young men of Oak Hill Township, announces his candidacy for the nomination of Register of Deeds at the hands of the Democratic County Convention.

—The splendid breezes, fishing and the well-kept Atlantic Hotel is drawing a larger number of people to Morehead City than for a number of years. Boating, sailing and bathing are the popular amusements there at the present time, and every day there are quite a number of parties made up which are pleasant opportunities for the guests to enjoy themselves. The excellent fishing at various points and every morning and evening different parties come in with large catches of trout and sheepshead, all claiming the record as to the number caught. The sport has never been better for the month of July.

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—Roll in your dollar for one year's subscription to The Public Ledger and get a chance at the three valuable prizes we are giving away—a good cook stove, sewing machine and a 52-piece set of china.

—A hall storm in the Dement X Roads section Friday afternoon almost completely ruined the tobacco crops of Rufus Brummitt and Wm. Tunstall, Mr. Durell Brummitt and several others had crops damaged.

—General Fitzhugh Lee, in a letter to President Varner, of the North Carolina Press Association, accepted the invitation of the association to deliver an address before it at its next meeting in Morehead City, July 27th or 28th.

The first session of the Howard High School at Sterax gives fine success, and the commencement of the second term will soon arrive and you cannot patronize a better high school. It is located in a healthy moral community, and its principal, Prof. J. C. Howard, is an experienced teacher and just the man to instruct boys and girls. Read his advertisement in another column.

—Judge Parker received the news of his nomination while enjoying his usual swim in the river at Esopus; he declined to make any comment on the situation. Hearst gives his endorsement to the nomination of Parker with assurances of support; Mr. Cleveland is gratified at the choice of the convention, and Chas. F. Murphy, of Tammany Hall, says that organizes will see a larger candidate in New York.

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## LIPSCOMB ESCAPES THE GALLOWS.

Governor Aycock Commutes His Sentence to Life Imprisonment.

Governor Aycock commuted the sentence of Arch Lipscomb, the cold blooded murderer, to imprisonment for life, and he was hurriedly taken by Deputy Sheriff Charles Turner to the penitentiary last Friday. The reasons of the Governor, for the commutation, are as follows:

Dr. Miller is of the opinion that the prisoner while not a native of very low order of intellect and was influenced to commit the homicide through fear of the power of the deceased as a conjurer. The deceased had no mind to kill and his power and his powers were feared by a great number of colored people, including the prisoner. Great numbers of citizens of the county have written Governor Aycock urging the commutation of the sentence upon the ground that the prisoner was insane. Many of these are impressed with the belief that he committed the homicide by reason of his fear of the deceased. The opinion of the Governor is that the prisoner is not responsible for the death of the deceased and he commuted the sentence from death to imprisonment at hard labor for life. CHARLES B. AYCOCK, Governor.

As our columns will show we have always been an ardent supporter of our friend, Governor Aycock, but in this instance justice compels us to say he has made a great mistake, and the reasons assigned for his action to our mind are flimsy and insufficient. How can we expect people to respect the law and the action of our courts when a cold-blooded murderer caught red-handed, as this one was, shall be allowed to escape the punishment he so justly deserves? The editor informed that Lipscomb told his brother-in-law a few days before the murder that he intended to shoot Merritt, and his brother-in-law replied: "You had better break that old gun and throw it away for it will sure get you into trouble." But he persisted in his threats and a few nights afterwards went over to Merritt's house and put his gun down just outside the door. After some conversation with Merritt on the relation he had to the gun, he slipped to the door, got his gun and shot Merritt, killing him so instantly that he never even uncrossed his legs as he sat in his chair. Lipscomb confessed the crime and after his conviction attempted to play the crazy card, until he found it would not work, and then fell back on the old plea that he was afraid Merritt would "conjure" his wife.

Men who have known Lipscomb 12 years say they never heard of his being accused of being crazy, and that he was not crazy, and that he is a negro above average intelligence, was clerk of his church and can read and write.

The Governor says that he received a large number of letters from the people in Granville asking that the sentence be commuted. It would be interesting to know how many of those were from people living in the neighborhood of the murder and knew the prisoner at the time of the crime. We have been reliably informed that an overwhelming majority of the whites and blacks in that section think he ought to be hung. We admit a number of people who did not want a hanging in Oxford and who never attended the trial, and no doubt a majority of whom would not know Lipscomb if they met him, did write the Governor that they thought he was crazy and ought not to be hung. But what is such testimony worth?

The talk about "conjuraton" is all foolishness. Lipscomb is not the "densely ignorant" negro as some would have the Governor believe. To our mind he is an alert, active, wide-awake negro of average intelligence. He knew what he wanted to do, and was aware of the results of his act. He also knew that others had gotten off by pretending to be crazy and doing so. We were much amused a few days ago on a visit to the jail in company with our worthy Register of Deeds and two others, to witness the difference in his conduct when he knew he was about to be hanged and when he thought we were all gone. If we had ever had any doubts as to the state of his mind it was all dispelled then.

No man ever had a fairer trial than Lipscomb. In the name of justice should have paid the penalty of the law.

A large number of people will denounce crime in the abstract, and be really horrified at a commission, but as soon as the heinous act is committed their sympathy all goes out to the murderer and they forget the widow and orphans made by the slayer, and have no regard for the divine law which says, "he who sheds man's blood, by man shall also his blood be shed."

In this instance a brutal murder was committed without provocation, a fair and impartial trial given the murderer, he was convicted and now is saved from the gallows and in a few years no doubt a petition will be circulated for his pardon.

And still some people wonder why the masses do not have more respect for the law. Gov. Aycock during his term has had much to say against Lynch law, but we know of no more effective way to encourage it than by permitting murderers to escape the penalty of their acts.

Thousands are sick every year with some form of Bowel