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W. F. MARSHALL, Editor and Proprietor.

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One Dollar a Year in Advance.

VOL. XXIII.

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NO. 97.

BILL ARP'S LETTER.

Septimus Winner is Dead—The Author of Many Familiar Songs—Who Wrote the Doxology?—The Good that Men do Lives After Them.

Septimus Winner is dead. I never heard of him until the other day, when a brief notice in a New York paper attracted my attention. For sixty years he was a musical composer and a writer of songs. He was the author of many of the sweetest pieces that ever charmed our households and yet we never heard of him. Fifty years ago my wife used to play, "Come Listen to the Mocking Bird," and I accompanied her on the flute, and was proud of my skill. Then there is "What is a Home Without a Mother" and "Whispering Hope" and "How Sweet are the Roses." He made 2,000 musical compositions and published books of instruction for every kind of musical instrument. After the seven days fight before Richmond McClellan was removed because of his defeat and Halleck was put in his place. This displaced the soldiers very much, for they were proud of "Little Mac" and loved him, and so Winner took up their grievance and wrote a song and composed the music, "Give me Back my Old Commander." The air was simple and the words pathetic, and it soon was caught by the army of 80,000 men, and could be heard for miles along the lines and in the camps. It was inspiring and significant and made Stanton mad. He said it was demoralizing and an insult to General Halleck and must be stopped, and he issued an order to that effect. Of course, the boys stopped singing in the daytime or on the march, but away in the dead of night a whole regiment would break out, "Oh give us back our old Commander." Then Stanton ordered its publication stopped and threatened to arrest Winner. But Winner had sold the copyright and couldn't stop it. A famous singer dared to sing it on the stage in New York city, and she was warned not to do so any more, but she repeated it, and Stanton had to give it up and let it wear itself out. Winner was the winner of that fight, and Stanton made a fool of himself.

Stephen Collins Foster was another composer who was very dear to us in his day, and charmed millions with his exquisite melody. We old-fashioned people still call upon our children to comfort us with "Old Folks at Home," "Uncle Ned," "O, Susannah," "Old Dog Tray," "Nellie Bly" and "My Old Kentucky Home." The royalty on this last piece made him a good sum of money. What would the traveling minstrels have done without his songs? But in his last years he aspired to a higher plane of composition, and wrote such pieces as "Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming." He was a man of fine culture and familiar with many foreign languages. He, too, is dead and there has no one come to take the place of these sweet fireside songs.

Shakespeare says: "The evil that men do lives after them. The good's often interred with their bones." Well, it is often, but not always. Isaac Watts has been dead one hundred and fifty years, but his beautiful hymns and his cradle songs are still familiar to every Christian household. "Hush, my dear, lie still and slumber," has soothed to sleep thousands of little children. "Let dogs delight to bark and bite," is the first little speech of childhood, and next comes "How doth the little busy bee." The hymn books of all Christian churches abound in his beautiful verses, such as "When I Can Read my Title Clear," "There is a Land of Pure Delight" and "While the lamp holds out to burn, the vilest sinner may return." These were not interred with his bones and will live through the age.

Sometimes the man or woman who did the good is forgotten, but the good remains. Not one church member in a thousand in this country knows who wrote the Doxology that is sung all over the world, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." Thomas Ken has been dead two hundred years, but those four lines will live and doubtless be in heaven and hears more of his own verse and music than any saint around the throne of God. Shakespeare might have said with more truth, "The good that men do lives after them." Our venerable judge Warner went north in his old age to revisit the

home of his youth and found the town adorned and shaded with beautiful elms around the churches and along the sidewalks—trees that he planted half a century before and had never seen since he came to Georgia to teach school. The high tops of those trees seemed to reach the sky and men and women walked and children played under their shade, but not a human being in that town remembered him or knew who planted those trees. He found one old schoolmate, but he was blind and in the poor house. Fifty-five years ago when I first visited the little town of Rome I noticed a good old man by the name of Smith—Johnny Smith he was called—and he, too, was planting little trees around the churches. He was a lover of ornament and he was doing it without pay, but not without reward. They grew apace and gave some shade before he died, and kept on growing until they, too, almost reached the sky and are still there, a living, breathing monument to the good old man. But who knows who planted them—who besides myself? And there is my old friend and partner, Judge Branham, who for twenty years has been working on that beautiful cemetery on Myrtle Hill—making new walks and grading them, laying off lots on the new purchase, planting trees and flowers and in many ways ornamenting and beautifying the city of the dead. Within a few more years he will be one of its sleeping citizens and later on another generation will frequent the romantic place and wonder who shaped it into beauty, and nobody can tell. Dr. Johnson said that every man ought to plant a tree or write a book or do something for the benefit and comfort of those who are to live after he is dead. "Our forefathers did much for us," he said, "and we must pay the debt."

Last week our school girl wanted a speech. Her mother and I ransacked the books for one that was short and sweet, and we selected three or four to choose from. There was Mrs. Hanna's beautiful poem on "Death."

Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the north wind's breath;
Then, there was part of "The Fisherman's Prayer," by Jean Ingelow, and "The Last Leaf" by Oliver Wendell Holmes, which was not so solemn and I liked it the best. It just fits a man I know and I never see him but what I think of those sad and humorous verses.

Our old man is in his ninetieth year and has seen trouble. He is tall and stooping and steps slow and sure. His friends are all dead, but he goes about with a long cane and looks hard at you when you stop to greet him and then he tries to smile, if he knows you.

Trouble For the Proof Reader.
"If you think I'm going to pay you a penny for this advertisement of mine in your measly old paper, you are mightily mistaken my friend," said an irate business man as he slammed down a copy of the Morning Reveille on the counter in the business office of the paper.

"What is the matter with the advertisement?" asked the business manager of the paper as he came forward.
"I'd ask what is the matter, if I were you! What I wrote was a fresh invoice of dairy butter every day. Will you cast your eye on that ad of mine and see what you have printed?"
The business manager cast his eye on the "ad" indicated, and looked for a place of safety when he read—
"A fresh invoice of hairy butter every day!"
Evangelist R. G. Pearson, of Asheville, has accepted the chair of English Bible and Evangelistic Methods in the Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tenn.

In the Beyond.

Richmond News, Dec. 8.
A little more than a year ago President McKinley died. Yesterday morning he was followed into the mysterious beyond by his most inveterate and dangerous enemy, Thomas B. Reed. The two men were vividly opposite in their methods of thought and work. McKinley was a diplomat; Reed was a fighter. It is a curious fact, considering the differing dispositions of the two, that in actual warfare McKinley, the gentle and affectionate man who drew other men to him with almost feminine caress of voice and manner, was early at the front and distinguished himself by valor and energy in battle while Reed, who went against his enemies with a sledge hammer and who won his way rather by force than by grace, was not a soldier.

Mr. Reed believed himself entitled to the Republican nomination for the presidency. He regarded President McKinley with bitterness, not only as his successful rival, but as a charlatan and a hypocrite. Probably he said and did more than any other human being to wound the kindly heart of the dead President. He never lost an opportunity to use his caustic and biting wit against him. A strong rough, overbearing man, who shouldered his way through life and went at his objects as the bull charges, piercing and trampling all that stood in his way, he could not endure the quiet and persuasive methods of the other man. He believed in his heart that McKinley was morally a coward and a dodger of issues. Probably, if he had remained in politics, he would have disrupted the Republican party. His dislike, contempt for the President had become a mental disease. He would talk to any audience of Mr. McKinley's smallness, of his evasions, of his unworthiness to represent the party and the country and was unsparring in his criticisms of his policies. So far as the public knows, Mr. McKinley made no retorts and gave no evidence of resentment. He loved to be pleasant and amiable and he lacked the nimble wit and the almost diabolical capacity for discovering the weak places and inflicting wounds which made Reed so formidable.

We may wonder whether the two men who were such bitter and conspicuous rivals and such notable figures in this life will meet in the life on the other side of the veil and know each other better than they did here. Mr. Reed in his time was the object of as much and as intense hate as any man who has ever lived in this country. Yet, now that it is all over, we think the country is unanimous, practically, in the feeling that he did great work. He made the house of representatives an effective and active body and destroyed the power of the minority to obstruct legislation. We predict that if the Democrats ever secure a majority in that body they will hold to the famous "Reed Rules." As Grant had the sense to understand that the quickest war was the most merciful, war and the nerve deliberately to adopt and continue the policy of attrition, giving two or three men for one, pitilessly grinding an inexhaustible against a limited force, so Reed had the courage to trample precedent and to invite storms of malediction to secure results. He was relentless, tyrannical and imperturbable, but a man of that kind was demanded by the situation. His enemies need have asked no vengeance more complete than his subsequent fate. He retired from politics a beaten, baffled, and embittered man, disappointed of the ambition for the presidency, which lay nearest to his heart and for which he had given years of his life. He was honest through and through. With powers and opportunities and temptations such as few men have, he left congress as poor as the day he went in. Whatever his faults may have been none could accuse him of treachery or corruption. He was merciless in his methods and brutal in combat, but he was clean and strong and fearless. He could not tolerate anything that looked to him like weakness or betrayal of friends or making terms with foes, and it was for that reason that his hatred of McKinley was so intense.

Perhaps, in that other life the two enemies, seeing more clearly than we can see in this world and understanding the motives and the conditions hidden here, may learn to honor each other and to be very sorry for things said and done against each other.

The Legislative Office.

Statesville Landmark.
Having in mind the time and money expended by the last Legislature in trying to impeach the judges, the Durham Herald observes:
As there are no Republican officials whose jobs are wanted the coming Legislature is expected to confine itself to business.
The trouble is that while there are no Republican officials to be legislated out of office, so far as we know, there will be numerous Democrats on hand looking for places, and the time and effort required to apportion the jobs at the Legislature's disposal will be considerable. The editor of the Pittsboro Record, who was a member of the last State Senate, and who has been re-elected, says in a recent issue of his paper:

The truth is that every Legislature has more employees than are actually needed. Sympathy for eager applicants induces many members of the Legislature to insist on the employment of more men than are needed. It might be well for the next Legislature to institute a reform in this respect and only have employees who are actually necessary.
Here indeed is a chance for legislative reform, and the trouble is of long standing. It is a notorious fact that, especially in recent years, all Legislatures, Democrats and fusionists alike, have more employees than are needed. So many pages, laborers, clerks, doorkeepers, assistants, etc., are employed that they tread on each other's toes. And they are paid good salaries, too, some of them at least receiving more pay than the work is worth. Instead of reducing the number of employees and cutting down expenses, the disposition is to make new places and increase the number. So many members of the Legislature have friends and kindreds that they want fed at the public crib—some of them even take their own sons and daughter to Raleigh and beg for place for them—that, as the Record says, the pressure is so great that it is not easily resisted.
But now is the time to institute the reform. The State is behind in money matters and every possible expense should be lopped off. Surely, under the present circumstances, enough members can be found bold enough to stand by for this much needed reform.

Another thing: There is a good deal of talk now about the Legislature passing laws to restrict the sale of liquor. It might be well, if the Legislature is to undertake to restrict the liquor traffic, for the members thereof to show their faith by their work and elect only sober men to fill the offices. It is a notorious fact that in some of the recent Legislatures men have been elected to important positions who disgraced themselves, the Legislature and the State by public drunkenness while in office. The Landmark does not think it a crime to take a drink but it does think it outrageous to place men in public positions who disgrace themselves by public drunkenness, or who drink to such an extent that they are unable to attend to business. We have had a good deal of this sort of thing about Raleigh, and men who have been elevated to other important public positions have been guilty in this respect. A reform is needed in this direction and now is a good time to inaugurate it.

Mt. Holly Votes for Schools.

Charlotte Observer.
Mt. Holly, Dec. 10.—The election for local tax in school districts 4, 5 and 6 was held at this place yesterday, resulting in an overwhelming majority for the tax. The voting began early and by 10:45 o'clock the measure had carried and a graded school for our town an assured fact. The only vote cast against it was by a man who is too old for a poll tax and who does not own property. For weeks previous the community has been stirred by this important question, and the best citizens taking an active interest with the very satisfactory result at the polls. This tax raises an amount equal to the public school appropriation and insures Mt. Holly a graded school for a term of eight months. The joy after the election was equal to the enthusiasm before, and the whole town turned out last night to celebrate. There was a street parade by the pupils of the public school, a bouree and much noise of cheers and fire-works.

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Makes the bread more healthful.

Safeguards the food against alkali.

Always baking powder on the grandest scale to health of the present day.

NO MORE APPOINTMENTS.

I shall make no more appointments for collecting taxes for 1902. I will be in charge of a force of deputies and with them will ride—
Dallas Township, Monday and Tuesday, December 8th and 9th.
Cherryville Township 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th.
River Bend Township, 15th, 16th, and 17th.
South Point Township, 18th, 19th, 20th.
Gastonia Township, 22d, 23d and 24th.
Crowders Mountain, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st.

Your tax receipt will be in Dallas on all days except those advertised for your township. No cost will be added if you pay your taxes before the sheriff makes his rounds in the saddle as advertised above. Give attention to this and save yourself and the officer the trouble and annoyance of a levy.

C. B. ARMSTRONG, Sheriff.

STATEMENT.

Office of Register of Deeds of Gaston County, N. C.
Dallas, N. C., Nov. 25, 1902.
Pursuant to the provisions of section 713 of the Code, the following statement showing items and nature of all compensation audited by the Board of County Commissioners of Gaston County N. C., to the members thereof severally from Dec. 1st, 1901, to Nov. 30, 1902, inclusive, is submitted to the public, to-day:—

T. C. Pegram, Chairman.	9 days as Commissioner @ \$2.00	\$18.00
1 day on Committee		2.00
24 miles traveled @ 5 cents		1.20
Total		\$21.20
J. R. Conell, Chairman.	29 days as Commissioner @ \$2.00	\$58.00
8 days on Committee @ \$2.00		16.00
486 miles traveled @ 5 cents		24.30
Total		\$98.30
John M. Gaston.	29 days as Commissioner @ \$2.00	\$58.00
8 days on Committee @ \$2.00		16.00
304 miles traveled @ 5 cents		15.20
Total		\$89.20
J. W. Kendrick.	29 days as Commissioner @ \$2.00	\$58.00
3 days on Committee @ \$2.00		6.00
420 miles traveled @ 5 cents		21.00
Total		\$85.00
M. D. Friday.	28 days as Commissioner @ \$2.00	\$56.00
8 days on Committee @ \$2.00		16.00
140 miles traveled @ 5 cents		7.00
Total		\$79.00
James G. Holland.	19 days as Commissioner @ \$2.00	\$38.00
5 days on Committee @ \$2.00		10.00
190 miles traveled @ 5 cents		9.50
Total		\$57.50

Number of days the Board was in session 158
Number of miles traveled 1,580
Total amount paid \$627.20

There were no unverified accounts allowed nor any allowance made the Board except as above stated. I hereby certify that the above statement is correct.

M. A. CARPENTER,
Register of Deeds and Ex-officio Clerk Board County Commissioners.

Professional Cards.

P. H. COOKE,
Attorney and Counsellor at Law.
GASTONIA, N. C.
Office in Craig & Wilson Building.
At Dallas in Clerk's office every first Monday.

R. B. WILSON,
Attorney at Law.
GASTONIA, N. C.

P. R. FALLS,
DENTIST.
GASTONIA, N. C.
Office over Robinson Bros. Store Phone 86.

DR. D. E. McCONNELL,
DENTIST.
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In the newest designs, and also APPLIED COLLARS of the latest styles. Don't fail to see these attractive goods.

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Silks in new designs, the 24 and 36-inch goods in black and colors.

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APPLIED TABLE COVERS, WASH STAND COVERS, BUREAU SCARFS—prettiest styles ever brought to this market. Novelties in HANDKERCHIEFS, BELTS, BELT PINS etc.—all very pretty and superbly suitable for holiday giving.

Walking Skirts in the latest styles of slot seams.

Millinery and Dress Goods.

From our Millinery, Dress Goods, and Waistings, we are still able to supply your every want. Remember that our Dress Trimmings are always in the lead, as we are constantly getting in the newest novelties as soon as they come out.

JAMES F. YEAGER.

LADIES' FURNISHINGS A SPECIALTY.

READ! READ!

GOOD NEWS FOR YOU!

For some weeks we've been talking stock to you—the fine stock we've been getting in and wanting you to see. The people came; they saw the stock, they liked the stock, they bought the stock and they were suited well with the stock. Yes, we've been selling lots of animals and good ones, too.

Now, we have just received a pretty bunch of stock that walked through the country from Tennessee, also a full car-load of horses and mules that arrived last Saturday from the same State, making in all some 80 head now on hand.

Among these are some specially desirable saddles and driving horses, a few extra good family horses, and a plenty of good farm animals of almost any class in size from 14 to 18 hands high and weighing from 800 to 1200 pounds.

NOW LISTEN!—We are anxious to close up our year's business in order to make a new start with the new year, and for this week and next we are going to offer **SPECIAL BARGAINS IN HORSES and MULES** for cash or on time. Stock will surely be higher after Christmas. Buy now and save money. Don't fail to call and see our stock.

REMEMBER we guarantee every animal as represented to you when we sell it, and remember also that you will save money by buying before the end of the year, and by buying from us.

Yours etc.

CRAIG & WILSON.

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