

Published every Tuesday and Friday.  
 W. F. MARSHALL, Editor and Publisher.  
 W. F. MARSHALL, Business Manager.  
 Vol. 11, No. 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.  
 Published at the office of the Post Office at Gastonia, N. C., at the special rate of postage April 23, 1902.  
 SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:  
 One Year \$1.00  
 Six Months .60  
 Three Months .35  
 Advertising rates furnished on application.  
 All communications should be accompanied by the true name of the author.  
 TUESDAY, DEC. 16, 1902.

Even with the courts to help them, the people who lit at the cherry tree scheme are finding that they let their money loose with a little more readiness and dispatch than they are exercising in getting it back again.

There are many stories related concerning the late ex-Speaker Reed. Most of them have been heard before, a few are new to some. But the story that the big man with a gavel of iron and the pent-up energy of a locomotive under full steam broke down and cried like a baby when the Democrats refused to join in a vote of approbation complimentary to the Speaker on the day of adjournment puts a great strain on one's believing machinery. It is easier to believe that such an event would have whetted his Caesar-like seat as legs sharpened iron.

The sensational story told by Bishop of his easy escape from Charlotte, the suddenly diplomatic attitude assumed by the hotel clerk toward interviewers, and the failure of the Charlotte and all other policemen to get sight or scent of Bishop until he chose to surrender himself, will furnish topics of absorbing interest to everybody who has time and inclination to discuss them. While of course, it is anybody's privilege to believe Bishop's story untrue, still the fact remains that he was allowed to get out of Charlotte unobserved, to make the trip to Petersburg undetected, and to go to his home in that city without let or hindrance by any officer. So somebody is short not only the \$400 offered by the Governor but the greater reward of honor and satisfaction which an apprehension would have brought with it; for it appears that this is an offender whose arrest might be accounted an act of homage to virtuous society and his punishment an offering of grateful incense in the temple of justice.

**FORGOTTEN OF ITS KIND.**  
 For ten years our advice to the man about to buy a cyclopaedia has been simply, "Don't." And there were reasons for it. In the first place, every cyclopaedia worth having was more or less out of date—often more than less, and the advice not to buy an out of date work was well given and, we feel sure, has not been followed with regret by any one. In the second place, the necessity for a new edition with a new census year and a new century so stimulated the working off of old stocks of "under-prices" that the advice of "don't" was actually needed by many unwary buyers who didn't get it.

But the necessity for this advice has been removed by the present publication of an entirely new cyclopaedia. We say present, for the reason that the work is now appearing at the rate of a volume a month, the fourth volume having just appeared, with three times as many more yet to follow. We say entirely new, for the reason that the reputable publishers so delect it. To those who are conversant with recent events in the book world, there is no need to say that we have reference to the New International Encyclopaedia in 17 volumes now in course of publication by the late, honest, and enterprising house of Dodd, Mead & Company in New York City. The International which was published by this house was in the front rank of encyclopaedias worth having but the publication of not a revision

merely but an entirely new work to succeed the old one places the New International fully ten years ahead of any similar production printed in the English language. Other information concerning this monumental and very desirable work may be found in the advertisement on the first page of this paper, and much fuller information with sample pages and terms may be had by sending the coupon and address to the publishers. One item we desire to add is, that this New International derives very greatly increased value and usefulness from the fact that, every year, the publishers issue a year book, uniform in size and style, which keeps the encyclopaedia ever up to date. This year book may be purchased and added to the collection each year.

It is needless here to dwell on the value, the usefulness, and the desirability in every enlightened home of a work like this New International Encyclopaedia. It is a vast store-house of classified human knowledge, a great library in itself of the world's progress and achievements up to the present time, a priceless treasure to all growing and active minds. In commending this work with our warmest approbation we are doing something that is seldom done in these columns, as our readers will bear witness; and it is done now in order that we may do them a favor by bringing so worthy a work to their attention, as well as to accord a deserving estimate to what we regard as an entirely great and meritorious achievement in the book-producing world.

**Crouse Votes Special Tax.**  
 Special to Charlotte Observer.  
 Crouse, Dec. 13.—The election for local school tax in Crouse district, No. 14, Howard's Creek township, Lincoln county, was held to-day. Fifteen votes were cast for it and twelve against it. A special annual tax of 30 cts. on the \$100 valuation of property and 50 cts. on the poll will be levied. This district seems to play the roll of leader. Though the youngest in this township it was the first in the county to raise funds for a rural delivery, and is the first in the county to vote a local school tax. This will likely give us a ten months' school. Other districts have petitions out for special school tax, and we believe in less than a year, a considerable number of districts in Lincoln county will vote it. Crouse has a right to be proud of her record for progress.

**ARMY RATIONS.**  
 A perusal of the annual report of General John P. Weston, chief commissary of the army, will convince the reader that to be an efficient officer one must have a knowledge of business methods as well as of tactics. The army consumed in the last year 2,574,973 pounds of beef and mutton, and by the business arrangements of the department this was delivered at a reasonable price. The Philippine supply was sent from Australia and was of the "first class refrigerated" kind. The beef was bought at an average of 6.68 cents a pound and the mutton for 5.50 cents a pound. The delivery at army stations averaged 2 cents a pound. In drawing comparisons between prices paid by the United States government and England, General Weston points to the fact that a ration of beef alone, delivered to the British army in South Africa, cost more than "our entire ration of beef, flour, fresh and dried vegetables, fruit, coffee, etc., delivered at Manila."

The Venezuelan fortress which guards the entrance to Puerto Cabello was bombarded and captured Sunday by the British cruiser Charybdis and the German cruiser Vineta. It was intended as a punishment for the act of the Venezuelan mob in seizing the British merchant steamer and tearing down her flag.

The government physician of Guthrie, Oklahoma, reports that scrofula, consumption and other incurable diseases are rapidly exterminating the Sac and Fox Indians. The latest report says there are only 475 members left of this once powerful tribe.

Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, wife of President U. S. Grant, died Sunday night at her home in Washington of heart failure, at the age of seventy-six years. Her body will be interred in Riverside Park, New York by the side of her husband.

**PAID PARTLY** leading in all the best books, magazines, papers, and news, at Marshall's Gastonia Book Store.

**Knifing.**  
 Richmond News.  
 Before the anthropoid ape was an anthropoid ape, that is, before there was any man for him to resemble—we suppose he sometimes became eminent among his kind. We have no information of what constituted eminence in an ape, whether superior fighting ability, unusual activity in tree climbing, the accession of a large coterie of female apes or what not. Supposing, however, that there were eminent anthropoid apes we have some difficulty, considering the present known tendency of human nature, to understand the doctrine of the survival of the fittest. In the present stage of the development of the human race whenever a man becomes eminent at all or in any way distinguished or conspicuously successful among his fellow-men he is sure to be knifed. The word "knifing" is a very strong one. It indicates the process of cutting into a man's reputation or success and feeling for his vitals and tender places with the view of barbing and injuring him as much as possible, and putting him back "where he belongs," which usually is the place from whence he rose.

Presumably, we derive this tendency from our ancestors, the apes. Certainly, it does not belong in the divine part of us, and if the apes had our disposition the fittest were very unlikely to survive. It is universal among us, in youth, age, in both sexes—we grieve to observe—and in all classes of society. It is not always envy. The derivation is hard to find, delve as we will among the complicated and deep sunken roots of human motive from which grow human acts and words. Possibly two human beings of every ten can rejoice heartily and honestly in the success of their fellows. The other eight are indifferent or ready with the knife. The man who sticks his head above the crowd to which he happens to belong invites a blow as surely as the taller trees in the forest tempt the lightning. No matter how large or how small the success, the results are the same. Always it calls enmity and the blade.

And therein is the virtue and philosophy of humility. The wisest man is he who can succeed most effectually without appearing to do so or to be conscious of it. Eminence attracts envy of itself and, accompanied by a little obvious vanity, incites and insures a mortal stroke sooner or later. Perhaps the eminent ape, the fittest, survived because of his sharpness of eye and ear, which protected him from the assault at the rear and gave him the opportunity to kill his enemies and inferiors off-hand. We, his descendants, are denied that priceless privilege but we will do well to imitate his example. As soon as a man begins to get up in the world a little in any department of life, when he wins a promotion or a distinction or succeeds where others fail, it behooves him to look and listen keenly. A man of that sort is likely to be beset with the flatterer in front, inciting him to a suicidal vanity, and by the wielder of the knife reaching for his vitals behind. Sometimes the hands that politely offer the bouquet to the gracious snuffing of his nostrils and which drive the knife into his back belong to the same individual. All of us who have observed life have noticed this agreeable act. It begins with a little sneer, a shrug of the shoulders, a remark of mild depreciation. It goes on to open abuse, to slander and frank denunciation. We can move more stealthily and strike more surely than the inferior apes.

It is a curious tendency of human nature and very deplorable. Maybe, in the course of the evolution of the species, we will outgrow it and reach the stage where all of us can rejoice with those who do rejoice from the inmost recesses of our souls and can shout our applause for the victor from the depths of our hearts. Until that time however, knifing will go on in politics, in social life, in business, even, alas! sometimes in religion. And the successful man in any of these departments of life who desires to maintain success and to hold popularity will be required to be very alert to cultivate humility assiduously, to guard against the knifing from behind and to avoid carefully the dangerous error of being puffed up.

Hi Henry's Big City Minstrel organization, the largest and most expensive organization of its kind in the world, will fill a spare date at the Gastonia Opera House on Friday, Dec. 19. The company is so large that they will immediately begin unloading and will give the finest parade ever witnessed in Gastonia. Mr. Henry (weather permitting) will head the procession in his \$5,000 automobile followed by his challenge band of forty. Don't fail to see this wonderful band and hear their grand classical concert in front of the Opera House at 7 p. m.

**The High Price of Coal.**  
 New York Commercial Advertiser.  
 The anthracite operators owe it to themselves, if not to the public, to do something to make coal available to persons of limited means. They weakened their position during the strike by maintaining in the face of well-known facts that there was no scarcity and declaring that such a thing as a "coal famine" was not possible. As a matter of fact, it was the actual imminence of exhaustion of the supplies of fuel that induced President Roosevelt to take a hand in the dispute and use his good offices, as the representative of the people, to bring about a resumption of mining, a service the magnitude of which is now, with the cold weather fairly upon us, beginning to be fully realized.

When the mines were reopened and the price of coal still remained abnormally high the operators intimated that the public was being victimized by the retailers who, it was charged, were taking advantage of the situation to exact extortionate profits. At that time the operators talked, rather vaguely, to be sure, but most pertinently, of establishing their own selling agencies, through whom it was said abundant coal could be had at reasonable prices. Surely, the time has come for some such measure of relief, if it is really within the power of the operators to grant. The sufferings caused by the limited supplies of coal now offered in this city has reached a dangerous point; the ardent men have thought it necessary to call upon the board of estimate and apportionment to appropriate a fund of \$100,000 with which to supply the immediate necessities of the poor, and stories of hardships endured in consequence of the low temperature are heard on every side.

If the operators meant what they said in the first instance, or after mining operations were resumed, they should take prompt action. If they find that they spoke without warrant they should fully explain the situation and so enable the public authorities and private individuals to make plans accordingly. The situation is one which no doubt can be most effectively. The essential thing is to know the facts clearly and definitely.

**Not Liable.**  
 New York Times.  
 Lawyer Abe Hummel is authority for the statement that if bachelors who wish to avoid breach of promise suits will use telegraph blanks in doing their proposing, they will always keep on the safe side. He bases this assertion on an incident in a Westchester county breach of promise case, in which Mr. Hummel appeared for the defendant. The plaintiff's lawyer began to read the alleged proposal of the defendant to the jury, as it appeared on a message blank. He began with "My dearest Louisa." Mr. Hummel interrupted. "If the court please, this document is partly printed and partly written. By all the rules of evidence the plaintiff cannot offer parts of that instrument. He must read it all."

The opposing lawyer protested that the printed matter had nothing to do with the question at issue and the fact that the proposal was written on a telegraph blank was an accident. The court ruled that everything on the blank should be read. Reluctantly the plaintiff's counsel read:  
 "There is no liability on account of this message unless the same is repeated and then only on condition that the claim is made within thirty days in writing." And then, after the signature, "Your loving, John," followed. "Read carefully the conditions at the top."  
 It didn't take the jury long to render a verdict.  
 One railroad in Pennsylvania has 50 locomotives hauling coal. Saturday night 75,000 tons were started out, mostly for the big eastern cities.

**THE BEST HOMES.**  
 Home is where you always seek your ease and comfort. No homes are comfortable until furnished with up-to-date furniture. We want to show you the prettiest, up-to-date, most substantial, and largest assortment of house furnishing goods that you probably have ever seen. We offer special bargains to close out enough of our stock to get our business in one store room. We will appreciate a visit from you to our stores, where we are able to show you a large assortment of substantial holiday and wedding presents.  
**OUR MOTTO:**  
 No trouble to show goods.  
 Come now; come to-day.  
**Williams Furniture Co.,**  
 Next Door to F. T. Heath, and at Fortham & Moore Stand.

**Good Time at Rhynessville.**  
 To the Editor of the Gazette:  
 There will be a Christmas entertainment at Rhynessville School House, Dec. 24th, beginning at 10 a. m. All are invited.  
 H. A. BOLICK, teacher.  
 A summer school for teachers will be held at the Agricultural and Mechanical College in Raleigh next year, beginning June 15 and ending July 11th. Board and lodging for the entire session will cost only \$10. Announcement of faculty and full list of studies will soon be issued.

**OPERA HOUSE**  
**Friday, Dec. 19.**  
 THE BIG CITY SHOW!  
 THE FAMOUS **H. L. HENRY'S** WRITE  
**50-MINSTRELS-50**  
 LARGEST AND OLDEST IN THE WORLD.  
 Elaborate Special Scenic and Electric  
 Palatial First Part Setting.  
**GORGEOUS SATIN COSTUMED CIRCLE.**  
 25 **THE UNIFORMED SOLO ORCHESTRA** 25  
 12 **SINGERS** 12  
**JOKES GAGS NEW SONGS**  
**BETCHES SPECIALTIES**  
 40 **SUPERB CONCERT BAND** 40  
 ROUSING  
**17 VAUDEVILLES 17**  
 Car Load of Scenery.  
**SEATS NOW ON SALE.**  
 Never Such an Expensive Show at These Low Prices:  
**35c, 50c, 75c.**



**USEFUL GIFTS**  
 Why not combine usefulness with your Christmas generosity? There is nothing more useful, appropriate or acceptable as a Christmas present than any of the articles named below: Shoes, Felt Slippers, Hats, Umbrellas, Ties, Mufflers, Hosiery, Handkerchiefs, Suspenders, Gloves, Shirts, Underwear, etc. : : : :  
**ROBINSON BROS.**  
 SHOES, HATS, and MEN'S FURNISHINGS.  
**AGENTS WANTED!**  
 Two active men wanted to sell and collect for the Singer Sewing Machine Company in Gastonia and Gaston county. A first-class contract to the right party. Call on or address  
 W. W. BYRD, Manager.  
 Care Alexander House, Gastonia, N. C.  
**EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.**  
 The undersigned having qualified as executor of the estate of J. H. Boyd, deceased, late of Gaston County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of the said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 5th day of December, 1902, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. S. H. BOYCE, Executor.  
 This 4th day of Dec., 1902.

**Thomson Co.,**  
 Headquarters for Clothing of every description.

**THOMSON COMPANY, the place to buy your Dress Goods, Dry Goods, Shoes, etc.,**  
**THOMSON COMPANY, Ladies' Wrappers, all styles.**  
**THOMSON COMPANY, big Shoe sale going on every day.**  
**THOMSON COMPANY—Every day is a bargain day.** Thousands of merchandise going out of our big stores every day. Our prices make them move quickly. No trouble to show goods. Come in and feel at home. All welcome.

**THE PEOPLE'S STORE,**  
 Thomson Company.

**ELITE SPECIALS!**  
**ALL New Crop Goods:**  
 Nuts, Raisins, Currants, Citron, Dates, Prunes, Cheese, Macaroni, Maple Syrup, Buckwheat Flour, Shredded Wheat Biscuit, Malta Vita, Force, Ralston's Oats, Ralston's Breakfast Food, Ralston's Pancake Flour, Postum Cereal, Grape Nut, Saratoga Chips, Fine Coffee, every drop a drop of comfort. Also a large assortment of Cakes, Candies, Crackers, etc. We have a sample of Langdon's five-pound Fruit Cake on exhibition. Call in and examine our line and oblige  
**Reid & Alexander,**  
 Phone 92.  
**BRICK! BRICK! BRICK!**  
 A brick is a brick; yes, but what a difference in them. Good clay, good machinery, up-to-date methods, in fact a thousand details, are a necessity to produce the best brick. We have our plant fully equipped for a capacity of 15,000,000—not only that, but have a body of the finest river clay ever located in this country. Our plant is on the Catawba river, near Fort Mill, S. C., and shipping station, Grattan, S. C.  
 "A man is a man for a' that," but what a difference in 'em. You require the best lumber for your house; the best coal for your engine; the best flour for your table. One does not buy a common horse when he can get much better for near the same price. This is true about everything one needs.  
 In a building nothing is more essential than good material. It adds to the safety and wear, besides it will sell for more. Who would not pay more for a building put up out of first quality material than for one thrown together out of common ordinary material?  
 Let us correspond with you. Prompt service in shipments.  
**Charlotte Brick Co.,**  
 OFFICE WITH  
**S. S. McNICH & COMPANY,**  
 CHARLOTTE, N. C.

**MISS RUDDOCK'S**  
 UP-STAIRS  
 OVER MORRIS BROTHERS.  
 The new materials, the new styles, the new colors, and new combinations.  
 And our knowledge, skill and taste are all at your service. Your inspection invited, your orders solicited.  
**Miss Ruddock.**