

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE
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 W. W. MARSHALL, Editor and Publisher.
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FRIDAY, JAN. 23, 1903.

The wonderful growth of this country in seventy years makes the figures in Davy Crockett's letter, published elsewhere, appear quite dwarfish. They are of a size to remind one more of a bond-issuance in some Gaston county municipality than of the financial questions of a great government.

The year 1903 promises to be one of great business activity. With no untoward interference, the tide of prosperity which rose to the highest mark last year will reach a far higher one in 1903. Gastonia and Gaston county, unless signs fall, are sure to have their share of the year's good things. Every business in the town seems prosperous, and with such excellent markets as the towns of the county afford for all that the farmers can produce, it would seem that there's nothing lacking but good roads to make the farmers happy. We believe that the big bundle of prosperity which 1903 will bring to Gaston county will contain a package or two of good roads.

FAMINE IN SWEDEN.

Feeds of a Terrible Situation that Demand Prompt Attention.

In those far-off regions of Sweden where the sun never sets some 70,000 Swedes are so near starvation that they are trying to keep alive on pine bark mixed with stewed Iceland moss and made into a sort of bread.

Nature almost made man so that he can keep alive on the bark of trees, and pine sawdust has often been fed to animals. In Sweden they are trying to keep the necessary animals alive by the use of finely chopped twigs of birch, willow, and ash, which are boiled and fed to them warm, but, unfortunately, milk thus made brings on typhoid fever and other diseases which are very prone to spread unless relief is quickly furnished. Thus thousands died of starvation and typhoid in 1867.

The peasants are almost as anxious to save their cattle as themselves. It is only the hardest cattle that can survive the extreme Northern winter, and upon the milk and beef of these cattle the people themselves chiefly exist.

As misfortunes never come singly, it happens that the fish are extremely scarce, too. The fishermen sold their nets in despair, and even the grouse that usually frequent this district in great numbers have quite disappeared. These are hard times in a country almost wholly dependent upon one breed of cattle and with no spring seed. But money grows everywhere. The whole world has been made aware of the situation and relief will speedily pour in, though the immediate suffering will be great.

Rapid Free Delivery Service.

The personnel of the service is one of its most interesting features. In the selection of men to cover the various routes a wise provision has been made that only persons who have lived at least one year within the territory covered by a route are eligible for appointment as carriers on the route in question. This naturally limits the class to residents of the rural districts and the towns which form the backbone of each route. They are required to pass an examination which tests their ability to read and write, their knowledge of mathematics, illustrates their familiarity with the neighborhood, and their physical condition. They must also be in a position to furnish a suitable vehicle, drawn by one or two horses as becomes necessary. A salary of \$300 a year is paid to cover routes of 20 miles and over, \$200 for 15 to 20 miles, varying from these sums to \$150 for shorter distances.

The tunnel which is to furnish pipe water in Cleveland from five miles out in Lake Erie is now practically completed, after six years work, at a cost of \$1,250,000. It runs one hundred feet below the lake bottom and is about 100 feet in diameter. Fifty tons have been lost in this work.

WILCOX GUILTY.

Jury Renders Verdict of Murder in the Second Degree—Thirty Years of Hard Labor in Penitentiary.

The trial of James Wilcox for the murder of Nellie Croxey was concluded at Hertford, N. C., Wednesday afternoon when the jury brought in a verdict of murder in the second degree. The jury reported at 2 o'clock in the afternoon after having been out twenty-two hours. Their decision was announced to the court through Mr. W. G. Reid, their spokesman.

Judge Council, in passing sentence on the condemned man, made a short speech in which he said, in part: "In pronouncing judgment upon the defendant I have nothing to say as to any opinion which I may entertain as to his guilt or innocence. I simply take the verdict of the jury as rendered and treat the defendant as a guilty man. If guilty, and the jury have said so, then I think he deserves the full limit of the law. The judgment of the court, therefore, is that the defendant be sentenced to the State's prison at hard labor for the term of 30 years."

The stolid indifference of the prisoner, which has characterized his attitude since he was first placed on trial for his life, remained with him when the judge read the sentence and no tremor of emotion could be detected in his countenance. The attorneys for the defendant gave notice of an appeal and Wilcox has been taken back to the Elizabeth City jail to await the order of the court on this point.

The crime for which Wilcox was tried and sentenced, shrouded as it was and is in the deepest mystery, has attracted more widespread attention probably than any crime committed in this state within the last fifty years. The evidence against him was entirely circumstantial and while the opinion that he was guilty prevailed very extensively, many people thought the evidence not sufficient to convict him. There was general surprise at the verdict as it was the prevailing opinion that he would be found guilty of murder in the first degree or acquitted.

WORLD'S GREATEST GUN.

Successful Tests at Sandy Hook With a 16-inch Coast Defense Gun.

New York, January 19.—The most powerful gun ever built in America, a huge 16-inch coast defense rifle was successfully tested at the government proving ground, Sandy Hook, Saturday. The gun was fired three times in the course of the afternoon in the presence of several hundred army officers, a few civilians, and one representative of the legislative branch of the government, Congressman Gillette, of Massachusetts, who was invited as a member of the appropriation committee.

The three tests were marked by the wonderful accuracy with which they fulfilled the mathematical calculations of the army experts who have charge of the gun's construction. The three shots also proved that the special smokeless powder made for 16-inch guns had been accurately prepared. The first shot was a sort of "warmer." The charge was 350 pounds of smokeless powder and the velocity of the 2,400 pound projectile when it left the muzzle was 2,003 feet a second. The pressure of the great charge of powder in exploding was 25,000 pounds to the square inch. For the second shot the full charge of 640 pounds of powder was used and the velocity was 2,405, or six feet more than calculated. The pressure was 38,000 pounds to the square inch. The elevation of the gun's muzzle for the first and second shots was 1 1/4 degrees and the ranges were 3,000 and 3,500 yards.

For the final shot the muzzle was elevated to 4 1/4 degrees, increasing the range to 7,000 yards. The velocity of the shot was taken. The charge was 640 pounds of smokeless powder and the pressure was 38,500 pounds to the square inch. All the shots ricocheted two or three times on the water, sending up great fountains of spray.

General Crozier said the tests showed the gun was an absolute success and proved that 16-inch guns could be furnished whenever the country wanted them. The gun fired today cost \$100,000. It was said at the tests today that the gun undoubtedly would be mounted at Sandy Hook. General Crozier said that while its range at its highest elevation was about twenty miles it could be used to hit objects at a distance of four or five miles. Objects further away could not be seen.

Wants to Know.

To the Editor of the Gazette: Why is it that Crowder's Mountain gets less money spent on her roads than any other town? Certainly it is not because she pays the least amount of taxes or needs it less. Will somebody please explain? CROWDER'S MOUNTAIN.

DAVY CROCKETT'S LETTER TO JUDGE CANNON

In Which He Frankly Records His Opinion of President Jackson.

It has been THE GAZETTE'S good fortune to get hold of an autograph letter of the late David Crockett, pioneer, author, philosopher, statesman, soldier, and hero. The letter was addressed to John O. Cannon, Esq., Madisonville, Monroe County, Tenn., and bears the Washington City postmark of Jan. 21 in big red letters. In lieu of the 25-cent mark used in those days to designate amount of postage to be collected, it was inscribed "Free, D. Crockett," since Crockett was at the time a member of Congress. The paper used is a good quality of watermarked linen and has a gilt edge. The letter was folded within itself, as was the good old-fashioned way before envelopes came into use, and was sealed with a small red wafer. Below we have tried to give the contents of the letter verbatim et literatim et punctuatum.

Washington City 20 th January 1834

Dear Sir
 Your favour Came Safe to hand by this mornings mail enclosing Six dollars, to subscribe for the Intelligencer I went immediately and had it ordered and enclose you a receipt for the Same and I return you my thanks for your good opinion of me.

I Can give you but little that is interesting more than you Can See in the paper - as we are still engaged in discussing the great question of the removals of the deposits, in both houses, and god onley knows, when it will end or what will be the result I am Clearley of opinion that the deposits will be ordered back by both houses but it will do no good the Jackson folks is beginning to brag of his vetoing power. It is impossible for us to get two thirds against the will of King Andrew the first one thing I live in hopes that if he does veto the measure that Congress will teach him a lesson that may be of use to the next Tyrant that may fill that Chair I must Confess that I never Saw Such times in my life every thing is news to me It is plainley to be discovered that old Jackson is determined to Carry his point or Sacrafise the nation It has been said by Some of his worshipers that he has been the Savior of the Country provided this be true he will retire from the government with the disgrace on him of destroying the Best interests of the Country the truth is If he had been dead and at the devil four years ago it would have been a happy time for this Country

He is coming on finley in the great arts of retrenchment and reform that was promised you will See the post master genl reply to a Call of the Senate where he acknowledges that he Borrowed three hundred & fifty thousand dollars out of the Pet Banks for which he is paying Six per cent for and also he has over drawn fifty thousand making a greable to his own showing the little Sum of four hundred thousand dollars they Can hide no longer the world must see the imposition trying to be plaid up upon the american people by Jackson and his partzans I have been examining the expenditures of the post office department and I find where they have paid for printing for that department alone to their hireland the globe the moderate Sum of forty two thousand dollars, in two years Jackson is determined to feed his pets out of a silver spoon I must close and request you to excuse this rough letter as the management here is enough to put any man out of temper that has any love for his Country. I remain with great respects your obt servt
 DAVID CROCKETT

JOHN O CANNON

LOWELL LOCALS.

...ance of the Gazette

Jan. 22.—Mr. Sholar, of Raleigh took charge of the Southern Railway depot here Wednesday. The former agent, Mr. J. B. Hester is now agent at Tryon, N. C. Mr. Sholar and family are occupying Mr. Henry Adams' house.

Mr. Ed. Hoffman, who moved here and built a house a year ago moved back to his farm near the Spencer Mountain Mill Wednesday. His family will follow him later.

Rev. L. T. Mann, pastor of the Methodist church, preached an excellent sermon to a good congregation Sunday. He is on the sick list this week, being confined to his home with rheumatism.

Rev. Mr. Gillespie, representing the Synodical Home Mission Board, preached at the Presbyterian church Sunday night to a good congregation.

Mr. John Cox is erecting a saw mill on the old Cox place about two miles east of here. The mill is being placed near a large popular tree, perhaps the largest in the county, which will be sawed into lumber. It will furnish twenty-five or thirty dollars worth of lumber. On this farm there stands an old pear tree, over seventy five years old and probably the oldest pear tree in the county.

John Puett, a young man in the employ of the Lowell Cotton Mill had the misfortune to lose one of his fingers while working in the mill Friday night.

MT. HOLLY.

...circumstances of the Gazette.

The rough weather of to-day will make the roads so bad that people will want a bond issue and macadam roads worse than ever. So far as I can learn almost everybody in this section is in favor of bonds if the issue is bonds, or no bonds, with no strings attached. Mr. Chas. A. Bently and Miss Hattie Long were married last Thursday evening at the home

of the bride at Triangle by Rev. J. J. Gray.

Furch Farror, a young colored boy, was accidentally killed near Mountain Island last Thursday evening while out hunting. He was by himself and it is supposed that in passing through a patch of briars that his gun had become entangled and discharged, its load, which entered his groin, causing him to bleed to death. His father went out to hunt for him the next morning and found him dead some little distance from where the gun was found in the briar patch. Coroner Adams came over to investigate and decided that his death was caused by accident.

There is considerable disappointment over here because our school term will be so much shorter this year than last. We had 5 1/2 months last year and will have but four this year.

BILLY SNOOKS.

A Magnetic Healer in Shelby. Shelby Special, 17th, to Charlotte Observer.

Mr. S. H. Harris, the magnetic healer of Shelby, is making some very wonderful cures. A Mr. Bluff, of Caroleen, was apparently in the last stages of laryngeal consumption and had not spoken above a whisper for nearly a year. Mr. Harris restored his voice in three weeks, and in two months he was so far recovered that he discontinued the treatment. Another remarkable case is that of Mrs. Everett Branton, of Shelby, who had droopy of the heart for about four years. The doctors had given her up to die. Mr. Harris treated her three weeks and she has no signs of the disease. She had no color of blood in her face before taking this treatment and now she is as rosy cheeked as a school girl. As for rheumatism, the cures he has made are so numerous that I cannot use space to name them. Magnetic healing is done by applying the hands to the patient and no drugs are used. Mr. Harris was born and raised here and the people are glad that one of their own people has developed such wonderful power.

The Doctor Feels Your Pulse

looks at your tongue, takes your temperature—then what? Out comes his pencil.

He writes the prescription slowly, thoughtfully, because the medicine must be accurately determined—a drop too much or a drop too little may do serious harm.

This carefulness on the doctor's part is not enough to insure safety.

The prescription must be compounded with skill and care—and conscience too.

We are careful—very careful—and your doctor's knowledge of pharmacy will help him to verify our claims.

J. H. Kennedy & Co.
 WHITE FRONT PHARMACY.
 Phone 84.
 207 New Ad next Friday.

DO NOT WANT STEEL STOCK

Homestead Plant Employees Consider Trust's Profit Sharing Plan. Employees of the Homestead plant of the United States Steel corporation at Pittsburgh interviewed the other day regarding the scheme of the concern to share its profits with its employees expressed themselves as decidedly opposed to the proposition, says the New York Herald.

The Homestead works employ about 7,000 men who are entitled to the profit sharing. Not one of the twenty interviewed favored the move and each condemned it. The men gave many reasons why the plan would not be a good thing. One of these was that, under the proposition submitted, the amount of stock that the majority of the workmen can buy is limited to a few shares. According to the circular, a thousand dollar employee can subscribe for but \$100 worth of stock. The workmen assert that only the department and general superintendents who draw large salaries will be able to purchase enough stock to make an investment worth the while.

Another objection raised is that the stock if bought on instalments will not be delivered until five years after the employee has purchased it and that if he leaves the service of the corporation before that time he practically loses his dividends on his stock. The objectors assert that the five year provision is virtually a contract to hold them in the company's service for that length of time.

They say that it would destroy their independence in case of a dispute making a strike necessary. Two of the opinions expressed by the men are as follows:

C. O. Foster, who draws a salary of \$1,700—I believe that we can do better by leaving our money in a savings bank than by putting a part of it in steel stock and not being able to get the stock for five years.

Edward Cox, employed for twelve years at Homestead—I do not think it would be wise for men to draw their money from the bank and invest it in stocks.

LESLIE SHAW'S SOBRIQUET.

Farmers Out in Iowa Call the Secretary "Apple Tree" Shaw.

Very few people know that Secretary Shaw of the treasury department is familiarly referred to out in Iowa as "Apple Tree" Shaw, or if they ever heard of his sobriquet are ignorant of the way he obtained it, says a Washington special to the St. Louis Republic.

When Mr. Shaw was a young man, making a struggling effort to obtain an education, little dreaming that he would ever be a member of the president's cabinet, he used to be the agent for a nursery. In vacation season he canvassed one county after another, selling trees to farmers. His specialty was apple trees.

He was the best salesman the nursery firm had, and it is said of him that he is responsible for half the apple crop of Iowa. It is no unusual thing for the average Hawkeye farmer to point with pride to the long rows of apple trees in his orchard, bowed heavy with luscious fruit, and say that "Apple Tree" Shaw sold him the trees.

"Huh! You don't know 'Apple Tree' Shaw? Reckon you never had a right smart of dealings lately with the United States treasury, for 'Apple Tree' Shaw, let's the man that's running that institution down in Washington just now."

The future secretary of the treasury rarely ever approached a farmer with an available piece of ground and failed to make a sale. His genial manners won him customers, as they have won him friends and supporters in after life, and there is many a man in Iowa who set out an orchard because Mr. Shaw made him buy the trees, even though he did not think he wanted them, who now is mighty glad he was induced to purchase them.

A COSTLY PRIMER.

Schoolteacher Gets \$2,500 For One No Paid 12 Cents For.

An original copy of the New England Primer which is said to be in better condition than the copies owned by Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt and Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan was sold recently by Mr. Morris D. High of Johnston, Pa., to Messrs. Dehl, Mead & Co. for \$2,500, says a Philadelphia dispatch to the New York Herald.

Mr. High, who is a teacher in the high school at Johnston, Pa., is a native of Clay, North Carolina, and he purchased the primer for 12 cents at a public auction in a farmhouse near his home in 1860.

Mr. High received an offer from Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan for the primer, but Messrs. Dehl, Mead & Co. made a higher bid and got the primer.

THE BIG CUT SALE

at Thomson Company is at its best. Crowds have been on hand every day, and go away well pleased with their purchases. This sale will continue several days more. Don't fail to be on hand before it closes. . . .

THOMSON CO.
 The People's Store.

WHY THAT FROWN

Don't you know the childish frown is too often caused by EYE-STRAIN? When you see the child's face that way it's best to see some one who knows about eyes.

We Know What to Do and will help you strengthen the eyes of the child and make it certain of good vision later in life.

J. H. Gorman,
 Adjoining Bee Hive. JEWELER AND OPTICIAN.
 GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA.

I Want Your Trade.

I take this method of showing my appreciation to the good people of Gastonia for the kindness and patronage they have given me since I have been here. I have been doing business for near two years and I have done more than I expected before I came here. I have tried to please my customers and a great many of them appreciate it. Again I am here to serve you as best I know how and I expect to treat you as I would have you treat me. I will make anything good that is not right. Will guarantee all goods sent out and when anything is not just right please tell me in a mild way of it and I will thank you for it. Now I want your trade or a part of it. I think I will sell you as cheap as any one and some things possibly cheaper. I have no specialty, only my entire stock I make a specialty of. Now don't forget to call up 115 and I will send you goods the first chance.

G. W. ABERNETHY.

Notice of Petition to General Assembly.

Notice is hereby given that a petition will be presented to the General Assembly of North Carolina now in session asking them to pass a law prohibiting the manufacture and sale of spirituous, vinous or malt liquors of any kind in the county of Gaston. J. A. Glaws, Chairman Prohibition Party 9th District of N. C.

HATS

New Spring Hats.

We have just received a shipment of the

DAVISSON

HATS

and they are ready for your inspection. This line includes all the nebbly shapes and styles in soft hats for spring wear.

ROBINSON BROS.

Shoes, Hats, Men's Furnishings

NOTICE.

On Tuesday the 17th day of February, 1903, I will sell at public auction at the City Hall door in the town of Gastonia, N. C., at 12 m., for non-payment of town taxes, cost to be added, the following described town lots listed for taxes in said city:

J. D. Brown, residence lot, E. Main,	near J. D. Ragan's	\$5.50
A. K. Loftis, residence lot, West	Main	\$1.10
J. E. McArthur, vacant lot,	Happy Hill	\$12.71
George Gaten, residence lot on	Happy Hill	\$1.10
Gill Williams, near Modena		\$2.20
Gill Williams, Happy Hill		\$1.10
J. O. Piper, W. Airline St.		\$4.40
		\$3.90

I. N. ALEXANDER,
 Tax Collector.