

# THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

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DEVOTED TO THE PROTECTION OF HOME AND THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTY.

W. F. MARSHALL, Editor and Proprietor.

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## POINTS AND PARAGRAPHS ON TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

Under this head will be printed from time to time noteworthy utterances on themes of current interest. They will be taken from public addresses, books, magazines, newspapers, in fact wherever we may find them. Sometimes these utterances will accord with our views and the views of our readers, sometimes the opposite will be true. But by reason of the subject matter, the style, the authorship, or the views expressed, each will have an element of timely interest to make it a conspicuous utterance.

### A Half Million Divorces in Twenty Years.

Christian Observer.

A recent estimate is to the effect that during the last twenty years more than half a million divorces have been granted within the United States. Half a million homes destroyed! Five hundred thousand guiltless women or men rendered miserable by the unfaithfulness of a consort! Perhaps a million children degraded by the marring of their homes! And those who have been unfaithful, and have done the wrong, have been simply set free to repeat the wrong on some one else. Is this right?

### North Carolina's Part in Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg.

Prof. H. R. Shepherd at Gettysburg, July 3rd.

"Fifteen North Carolina regiments took part in the incomparable assault of July 3rd, which has passed into history as Pickett's charge. The North Carolina troops advanced further into the works of the enemy than those of any other State, and were the last to retire from the field they had crowned with their valor. Every hillside, barn or humble retreat was marked by the presence of our wounded or dying. Our wounded lay in improvised hospitals; our dead rested in humble undesignated graves and blended with the indiscriminate dust. Never in all the annals of all the ages had fidelity to a cause, devotion to an imperishable conviction, so signalized achievement—deeds compared with which Waterloo, Wagram and Balaklava, idealized and glorified by poetic grace and romantic halo, hide their diminished heads.

### Forty Years After the Battle of Gettysburg.

Col. John E. Lane at Gettysburg, July 3rd.

Then, my comrades, count it not idle that your remains lie on foreign soil. It is foreign soil no more. We lost our cause, but we have won back our place in the American Union. Pennsylvania and North Carolina are sisters now, and like a sister, Pennsylvania is caring for you. Her noblest sons and daughters are pleading for a statute of Lee to overlook the scenes which last you saw and are coming to regard you as brothers. They address your old colonel as "comrade." Year by year the relentless temper of war is giving way to the gentle tones of brotherhood and peace. Your valor is coming to be regarded as the common heritage of the American nation; it no longer belongs to the South; it is the high-water mark of what Americans have done and can do. The day is soon coming and is already here, when your heroism will be as much admired in Maine as in Texas; in California as in Carolina. Your deeds challenge the wonder of mankind. You have brought everlasting renown on your native State and the dear old Twenty-sixth North Carolina. I gave you the highest tribute—a comrade's tears.

### The Five Great Evils of Society.

Cardinal Gibbons.

All young men of today who are anxious to win success and anxious to fulfil their full duties as citizens should realize that society of today is confronted by five great—five very great—evils: Divorce, which strikes at the root of the family and society; an imperfect and vicious system of education, which undermines the religion of our youth; the desecration of the Christian Sabbath, which tends to obliterate in our adult population the salutary fear of God and the homage that we owe him; the gross and systematic election frauds, and, lastly, the unreasonable delay in carrying into effect the sentences of our criminal courts and the numerous subterfuges by which criminals evade the execution of the law. Our insatiable greed for gain, the coexistence of colossal wealth with abject poverty, the extravagance of the rich, the discontent of the poor, our eager and impetuous rushing through life, and every other moral and social delinquency may be traced to one of the five radical vices enumerated above.

### Wonderful Improvement in North Carolina.

Scotland Neck Commonwealth.

One who observes closely cannot fail to be impressed with the throb of industry and quickened energies throughout the country. "North Carolina shows more signs of life and industry to-day than any time in its history," remarked a gentleman of considerable observation some days ago. And it is even so. Wherever you may turn you may see signs of marked improvement. In some places it is the rapid growth of towns; in others it is improvement in agricultural pursuits; and then it is quickening of educational interests. If it is not one thing it is another. The State is a busier place than it has ever been before; and we are just beginning to learn what is real industry. In the no distant future North Carolina will be able to rank up high in many things which heretofore our people have been slow to learn. In nothing has the State made more rapid strides during the past few years than in education. Our schools are growing in efficiency, teachers are commanding better salaries, and all things point to even better things in all these different lines of endeavor.

### College Students Wanted in Wheat Fields.

Charlotte Observer, 5th.

In an effort to relieve the situation on the Western farms, where labor is so scarce that many thousands of dollars worth of grain is said to be going to waste because there are no hands to harvest it, the Nebraska State labor bureau has hit upon a plan to put college students in the fields. The bureau is sending out circulars calling the attention of students throughout the country to the cheap railroad rates to the West and to the wages paid to farm hands—from \$2 to \$3 a day and all expenses—and hopes to secure hundreds of young men in this way. The nature of the response so far made is not known, but it can be surmised. The New York Commercial has about the correct idea of the situation when it says, in explanation of the abnormal conditions now prevailing, that a growing aversion to farm work is the cause. Thousands and thousands of men prefer "scrub" work in cities and towns the year around at \$1 or \$2 a day to \$3 a day and "found" during three months of the year on farms. "Unquestionably," says The Commercial, "there are many of this class who couldn't be tempted away from New York to the West by the higher wages, even if their railroad fares both ways were to be paid them in addition. To them a crust in New York is better than a feast on a Western farm." Of a good many others it might be said that loafing in town on nothing a day is preferable to honest toil on the farm or anywhere else.

### DAVY CROCKET AND E. A. POE.

Old Texan's Recollections of Notable but Widely Different Men.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

"It is not often that you strike men who can tell from memory reminiscences of more than three-quarters of a century ago, is it?"

The question was directed by Col. "Pick" Jones, of Seguin, Texas, when asked for a story of his boyhood associations with David Crockett and Edgar Allan Poe, with both of whom he was intimately associated when a boy. Though now in his ninetieth year, Colonel Jones walks with the alacrity and energy from his home to town of one many years his junior. His mind is clear and active, and his memory remarkably accurate.

"My father and Crockett were great friends, even before I can recall having seen him," said Colonel Jones. "The first time I remember of having met him was at my father's house. Crockett was then canvassing in the interest of his campaign, according to my recollection, for the Legislature, and I was a boy about 12 years of age. After that I saw him, hunted with him, and visited his home, and he our home frequently. Whenever he came anywhere in the vicinity of Madison county he made my father's home his stopping place. I once spent a week with him in his home in Obion county, Tennessee, and we went on several hunts together. He and I made arrangements to come to Texas together in the spring of 1836, but due to the fact that he could not get his arrangements made in time, he did not start. I think until some time in the fall. I started in the spring, and he was to meet me later on, but on account of the mail service and no facilities for communicating with one another, we never met after we parted in Tennessee.

"And you want to know something about Edgar Poe, do you?"

"Well Poe was as fine a fellow personally as ever lived on earth. It was 73 years ago that he and I entered West Point together. I then a boy of 15½ years and he upward of 20. Poe and I were classmates, roommates and tentmates. From the first time we met he took a fancy to me, and due to his older years and extraordinary literary merits, I thought he was the greatest fellow on earth. From much that he told me of his previous life, he was dissipated before he ever entered for the West Point cadetship. He was certainly given to extreme dissipation within a very short time after he entered school. At first he studied hard, and his ambition seemed to be to lead the class in all studies. He was an extraordinary scholar in all branches except mathematics for which he seemed to have an aversion. In that branch he fell short, and that seemed to have a tendency to discourage him, and it was only a few weeks after the beginning of his career at West Point that he seemed to lose interest in his studies and seemed to be disheartened and discouraged. I think when he discovered that he could not lead his classes that it had a tendency to dampen his ordinarily genial disposition. He would at times become a victim of the blues, and for many days he would hardly speak to any one, and his disposition seemed suddenly to be changed from life, energy, congeniality and pleasure to abruptness, revenge, spitefulness and even viciousness.

"He was invariably pleasant to me when in these despondent moods, and would generally get me to go with him down to 'Old Benny's' place some distance from the buildings, that the government has since purchased and made it part of the reserve, which at that time was a rendezvous for the boys when they could escape the guards. 'Old Benny' (I forget his other name) had intoxicants, and Poe would risk any chances in evading the officers when in one of his moods to go down, and he would invariably drink until he became raving drunk. It was not more than four weeks after we entered West Point in June, 1823, that Poe, accompanied by me, made his first venture to this 'joint.' This was the first time I had ever seen him under the influence of liquor, and he was soon more like a demon than a man. He was fearless at all times, and when under the influence of liquor was desperate and the boys at West Point had a high regard for him both through a respect for his extraordinary talents and through fear.

"Poe would form a dislike to a man, and his hatred was deep and unreconcilable. There was one of the teachers there, Pro-

fessor Locke, who hated Poe and the spirit of uncongeniality was mutual. It was Locke whom Poe on one occasion wanted to throw down a 60-foot embankment in the dead hours of the night into the Hudson river. This was when he was returning from Old Benny's late one night thoroughly intoxicated and imbued with the idea that Locke had done him some injustice. It was one of the most trying efforts of my life to prevent Poe from doing this terrible deed. Poe would drink to a most thorough state of intoxication every time he could get where there was anything to drink.

"It was quite frequent that long after taps were sounded at night Poe would awaken me and ask me to go down to 'Old Benny's' with him. Due to my younger years and the influence of an older head, I would invariably accompany him. Many times I have seen Poe in the guardhouse as a raving maniac from the result of drink after these escapades. He, when under the influence of drink, knew no such thing as obedience to his superiors and could only be handled by force, but I have never seen him subdued until after the effects of drink had worn off. He finally became so intolerant from his excessive drink that he was dismissed for disobedience to his superiors. I left West Point shortly after his dismissal, but never from that time saw him. I believe that I am the only living West Point associate of Poe, and would like very much to know if there are others."

**The Prominent Man's Kid.**

Col. Fairbrother's Everything.

If a prominent man happens to be the father of a precocious kid the best thing he can do is to teach him humility and grace and rub the salient points into the bosom of his pantaloons with a stave rather more frequently than otherwise. This would take from him the spirit of bravado which seems to rule many of the children of the rich and mighty. In other words, let it be understood that Little Tommy Tinker's dog cuts no more ice than the ornerly canine of the sorriest negro in town when it comes to bulldozing or intimidation.

There is a moral here. If it be not understood, write for further particulars.

**Too Much Handia Sentiment.**

Statesville Landmark.

The Durham Herald observes that it "has about reached the point in this state where a man who believes that murderers should be hanged is not considered competent to act as a juror." This is true, and it is also a fact that a man who believes in hanging murderers or in punishing with any severity people who are guilty of other offenses, is accounted blood thirsty, cruel, and heartless. The sentimental people who don't want anybody punished, but who gush and slop over with a lot of rot about mercy and big hearts, get the applause. If the murderers would confine themselves to this sort probably there would not be so much complaint.

**Large Surplus in Treasury.**

Raleigh Post.

The fiscal year of the government at Washington closed at midnight of Tuesday. Notwithstanding the rakes-off in the post office department, the surplus of revenue over expenses was over \$52,000,000. This simply represents that amount of taxes collected from the people unnecessarily. It represents—this surplus does—more than 25 times as much as all the revenue collected by our State for its expenses, including pensions, schools, old soldiers, interest on public debt, cost of maintaining all the charitable hospitals and institutions.

The total receipts from all sources were \$558,897,320, and expenses for all purposes including the cost of the trip of T. Thomas Fortune, the New York negro agitator sent by President Roosevelt to the Philippines, \$506,176,590, leaving the surplus \$52,720,730.

It's a shame, but the people seem willing, as well as able to stand for it.

**Sheriff Austin of Scottsboro, Ala.,** was shot and severely injured by a mob Monday night. He was resisting the efforts of the mob to secure a negro rapist from the jail but his resistance was futile.

### MAIL DELIVERY BY ELECTRICITY.

A Tennessee Man's Device to Supply Mail to Rural Communities.

Charlotte Observer.

The rural free delivery system is practically a new thing in the country, but it has been the subject of thought by inventors and a Tennessee man comes to the front with a device which he claims will revolutionize the business. His plan is to distribute the mail by electricity and it appears to be practicable. The inventor is a young man named W. N. Fisher, who, in describing his electrical carrier, says:

"Under the present system the farmer puts his letter in the mail box and waits for the carrier to get it and carry it to the post-office. Under the new system he drops his letter in the box without even leaving his doorstep, then presses a button and the box goes buzzing over the wires to the central office. Then, after the railroad mails have come in, the operator in charge at the central office puts into each box thus sent into him what mail he may have received from the trains addressed to the owner of the box. The current of electricity is then reversed, and the boxes are all carried back into the country."

To avoid confusion and the wrong delivery of mail, it is explained that on each box is a selecting mechanism that enables it to travel back over exactly the same route it came on. Consequently, there will be no confusion, no box going to the wrong place, but every box will go right back to the man that sent it in. But the invention goes further. In addition to carrying mail and delivering merchandise ordered by telephone out in the country, the inventor proposes to use the same wires for lighting farm houses by night, "thus keeping the equipment constantly in use twenty-four hours each day, and rendering it much more economical." There is one class of people who will be particularly interested in the plans of the young Tennessee inventor—the rural free delivery carriers. If the electrical device is adopted the rural carrier will find himself out of a job, for electricity will do in a few seconds what it takes him all day to do.

## Gloves and Mitts FOR SUMMER WEAR.

We have a beautiful selection of these goods suitable for the season. Silk lace Mitts, elbow length; silk lace Mitts, medium length; silk lace Gloves, elbow length; plain silk Gloves, white and black; plain Hile Gloves. These goods are the latest designs and the correct styles.

### HOSIERY.

Lace stripe and plain in summer weights. They are beauties.

New Pearl Waist Sets at 25c, 35c, 40c, and 50c per set.

### MILLINERY.

We are still showing a beautiful line of Millinery. New designs and correct styles are going at July prices, which are lower than ever before known. Our line of hats for Misses, Ladies, and Children for 50c, 75c, and \$1 each take the lead.

## JAS. F. YEAGER, LADIES' FURNISHINGS A SPECIALTY.

## In the Good Old Summer-Time.



Love making is made easy when accompanied by the soft strains of one of our Guitars or Mandolins. We also carry a complete line of Violins, Banjos, Autoharps, Accordions, French Harps, etc.—anything you need in the small musical line.

## Torrence, the Jeweler.

Watch repairing and engraving a specialty.

### Craig & Wilson's

to buy your Vehicles. We have on hand now almost any grade you may call for. Our doors are always open during the day and we are always glad to have our friends call and see us and permit us to show them our stock of goods. Your prices are always made satisfactory with our customers. We still have in our stable some fine and nice CARRIAGES and BUGGIES that we are going to sell.

### CRAIG & WILSON.

Jim Demps on Independence Day, said: "Force freed us from England's sway. Now Independence let's declare From indignation's tyrant snare. Good friends, shake off this despot grim. 'Twas 'Force' that freed your 'Sunny Jim.'"

**"force"**

The Body-to-Serve Code

always on duty.

A Food for Fighters.

"It may interest you to learn that 'Force' is being served to the members of the Grand Regiment, N. G. P., now on duty at this place." —HARRY W. BURTON.

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GASTON & COUNTY'S LEADING & NEWSPAPER  
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