

A WEEK OF SPECIALS!

At the Big Store, Thomson Co.

This week we put on some unmatched bargains. We have scooped in some good things and our customers get the benefit.

5000 yards Avon Bleaching. We closed a lot of Sheeting from the Avon Mill and had it bleached. The count is 96 by 100. Equals Lonsdale Cambric. There are two lots, it goes this week for, **8c & 10c**. Never again will we be able to offer such bargains.

5000 yds. short lengths heavy Shirts. **1 1/2 to 3 yds. pieces at 3 1/2c**

5000 yds. Rescue Sheet- ing, Loray Mill Sheet- ing go this week **5c** at, yd.

And to make this week interesting we have in every department, put out some specials.

Never before in the history of this business have we had such easy sailing. Our business has grown every day since we started over two years ago. Low prices, energy, truth, and capacity are the principles which have brought this store to its present magnitude, and will promote its future growth.

Thomson Co.

The People's Store :: :: Phone 46

TOOK PREP AT MASONIC LODGE

And That is how the First and Only Woman Came to be a Member of the Order.

Richmond News-Leader.

Among the visiting Masons attending the session of the Masonic Relief Association last night the subject of "Woman in Masonry" was under informal discussion. One of the members said:

"Many people think that women are admitted to membership in the Masonic Order, while as a matter of fact within the history of the organization only one woman has ever been allowed to join.

There are authentic reports to show that the only woman who was ever admitted was Mrs. Alsworth. Her picture now hangs in the Masonic Hall, in Franklin street, between Eighteenth and Nineteenth, and is the property of old Richmond Lodge No. 19, said to be the most venerable lodge in existence in this country, as it was chartered October 29, 1787.

Mrs. Alsworth was the youngest child and only daughter of Arthur St. Leger, created first Viscount Doneraile, Ireland, June 23, 1703, and Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of John Hayes, of Wincobles. She was born about 1713 and married Richard Aldworth, of Newmarket county, Cork, son of Sir Richard Aldworth, provost marshal at Munster.

The lodge in which she was initiated was No. 44, of Ireland, and its meetings were often held in the home of its President, Lord Doneraile.

Miss St. Leger determined to gratify her curiosity regarding the secret work of the organization and if possible to see "the goat in action."

With a pair of scissors she removed a portion of the brick from the wall and took her position, so as to command a full view of every part of the next room. Thus she saw the first two degrees of Masonry, the full extent of the lodge business that night.

From what she heard when the members were about to separate she felt trembling alive to the awkwardness and danger of her situation and began considering how she could retire

without being caught. Groping around the dark room in her frightened condition she knocked against and overturned a chair.

The crash was heard by the tiler of the lodge, who was in the lobby. He gave the alarm, burst open the door and with a light in one hand, and a drawn sword in the other, appeared before the now thoroughly frightened young woman.

The tiler was immediately joined by the other members of the lodge. They for the most part were furious at the discovery that their proceedings had been overheard. Miss St. Leger was placed under guard of the tiler and other members in the room in which she had been caught, while the lodge reassembled and its members deliberated for two hours in hushed voices as to what her fate should be. At last the young woman was told that she would have to submit to the ordeal she had witnessed—the conferring of two degrees—or remain a prisoner, while the lodge again considered her case.

Miss St. Leger, nearly exhausted with terror, yielded and was accordingly initiated into the secrets of the order. The other inmates of the house were in absolute ignorance of the affair until many weeks afterwards, when they learned that the daughter of the house had become a Mason.

This is the authentic account of the event as related in the history of the Masonic Order.

Postmaster Lewis of Madison is \$500 short in his accounts and his office has been turned over to his bondsmen.

The Hickory Banking and Trust Company of Hickory was chartered by the Secretary of State Wednesday, capital stock \$35,000.

A destructive fire visited Marion, N. C., yesterday morning. It originated in a negro restaurant in the rear of W. B. Ratcliffe's store.

At the meeting of the Daughters of the Confederacy in Asheville last week Mrs. F. A. Olds of Raleigh was re-elected president; Mrs. Kepler of Asheville, first vice president; Mrs. Parker of Henderson second vice president; and Mrs. London of Pittsboro Secretary.

DOWIE'S BIG CRUSADE

Plan of Zion City's Leader to Evangelize the World.

NEW YORK BUT THE BEGINNING

Millah III. Explains Object of Invasion of the Metropolis by Zion Restoration Host—Has Eight Thousand Volunteers Under Vow to Obey. Only Three Thousand Taken to New York—Remains a Prince as His Supporters—Some of Dowie's Characteristics.

For the first time in nine years John Alexander Dowie, the founder of Zion City and general overseer of the Christian Catholic Church of Zion, talked with a reporter of the Chicago Tribune about his plans to evangelize the world. He said the invasion of New York by the restoration host was only the beginning. Hugh Stuart Patterson, who obtained the interview in Dowie's own home in Zion City, declares that the Zionist leader gave him in confidence proof that a prince, who will some day be "a power in a great nation," is a follower of the Zion City prophet.

When asked what he expected to accomplish on the New York trip, Dowie replied:

"God alone can answer that question. My hopes are high, but how much God wishes me to accomplish I cannot say. We have prepared ourselves for this invasion. We have trained our hosts in the work. All that we, as human beings, can do we have done. The harvest is with God. If he wills it—and the answer to my prayers leads me to believe our visitation is under divine guidance—we will accomplish great things—great things that will lead on to greater things."

"After New York?" I began.

"New York is but the beginning. After New York the world. Zion shall ascend the steps of thrones and will dictate to monarchs and presidents of nations and tell them that the law of God must be obeyed everywhere."

"You wanted me out of Chicago, but I love Chicago. Perhaps Chicago may yet be saved. The idea of spreading Zion over the world was in me when in our little No. 1 tabernacle down in Sixty-second street. We began the fight then. I did not know how far God wanted me to go forward with the work. He has sustained me thus far, and now I believe he means me to do more."

"It has been a long fight against unfair enemies. We have preached and practiced peace, and we have suffered blows. We have bowed to law when the courts were poisoned against us. We have preached obedience to the law even when it was wrong, and we have won. I believe God meant us to win. Down in the little tabernacle in Chicago when there were but few followers I saw Zion City thrown on the canvas of the future. Now I see great cities on the American coast of the Atlantic ocean and on the Pacific ruled by the law of God."

"Next January I hope to start around the world with a little company of four. My wife will start with a party in the opposite direction. We will learn much, and we will see many of our followers in other lands. Until that trip is ended no further definite plans can be announced."

Suddenly his face saddened. "You cannot," he said, "you cannot see as I see. Christ to me is so real. He is so near. To me he is more real than to you and nearer. This world seems so pitiful, so sad, with the people so steeped in sin, so sunk in darkness, with his dear face to light it. Time seems so short. Naturally and calmly, in thirty years at the outside, I must pass away, perhaps in a week or a month or a year, and there is so much to be done."

"What provisions have you made for death?" I asked. "Who will be your successor and what will be done with the money?"

"My successor is provided; God has one ready to take my place. I have made a will as regards the disposition of the Zion estate, which I legally own and absolutely control. All Zion knows what it is in."

"The will briefly stipulates that 95 per cent of all the buildings of John Alexander Dowie shall go to the church, the other 5 per cent to his family, and of that 5 per cent a certain amount is to be given to the church each year."

"I live well," explained Dowie. "I enjoy many comforts, but I do not enjoy my income, and I give a great part of that to the church. I make a generous allowance to my wife and to my son, and they give liberally to the church. My personal fortune is comfortable. I have made it legitimately. I have secured no one."

"We are not materialists here in Zion. Every person is paid according to his worth and services. My work is heavy, my responsibility great, our enterprises have been successful, and in proportion to my services I am not overpaid."

"Considering that I do not see why Chicago is opposed to me. I and my followers spend millions of dollars in Chicago. We did spend more when we were located there, for thousands came and did their shopping there, but Chicago drove us out, and if Chicago does not look out we'll quit buying there altogether."

"You were a bad boy, and you lost many good stories by being naughty. Why, I have a first page 'naughty' head, double headed story right in my house now. If you will promise 'you honor' not to print it, I'll prove it to you."

And, having killed my hope of a "naughty" tale, he told me, and he had it too. He showed me Zion's connection with a live prince. That prince is a follower of Dowie, and some day he will be a great power in a great nation. I

remembered then that Dowie had said, "Zion shall ascend the steps of thrones."

Gradually I drew him back to the New York trip.

"We are not asking New York for anything," he continued. "We are offering every one in New York an opportunity to embrace the law of God. We ask nothing. Already we have plotted New York and assigned to every commander of seventy and every captain of ten a district. The host has studied for months the special maps of New York in our tabernacle. We have trained the host in its work. We have in all 8,000 volunteers in all parts of the world under vow to obey should I call on them for service. Only 8,000 have been ordered to New York."

"Zion restoration host will visit every house in the city. The work will be hard in New York because of the high flat buildings, but Elder Lee, who is the recorder of the host, has perfected every plan. He will explain everything to you."

Afterward Elder Lee explained, I saw maps of New York in printed sections, and each section was allotted to a commander of seventy and subdivided among the captains of ten. Each morning while the host remains in New York it will attend the half past 8 o'clock morning services, then take breakfast, and each captain of ten will lead his party into his district. He will take a street and cover three sides of each block facing that street for many blocks. Having started his ten to work, the captain will station himself on the corner of the next block and perhaps hold a short service until that block is finished. If tall flat buildings delay part of the workers, the first arrival at the captain's post will assist him in the service.

Dowie as a religious enthusiast, Dowie as a shrewd business man, Dowie as a home man, is impressive. In his home he is serene, calm and considerate. He admires his wife and has made her partner in everything. Nor is Overseer Jane Dowie a force to be overlooked in Zion. She is a motherly woman, calm eyed and peaceful, intelligent and devoted to her husband. In their family life, they seem perfect.

Another revelation of Dowie's character was made later in his library. There, surrounded by books, he is at home, and the student shows out all over him. On the shelves of his library are works in Sanskrit, in the almost unknown by name languages of India, great volumes of Chinese writings, and these Dowie reads.

When he cannot read a language he either learns it or summons one of his followers, who are recruited from almost every race—and there are more than fifty nationalities represented in Zion City—and has it read to him. Dowie converses with his Chinese adherents intelligently and fluently. He is an authority on Chinese history and literature.

"Where does this man go to learn these things?" I asked of his right hand man later.

He told me Dowie works eighteen, twenty, sometimes twenty-four, hours a day, tireless, sleepless and sustained by his immense physical energy. He has worked as many as forty hours with scarcely a stop even for meals. He has preached and prayed all day and all evening and then, returning to his office, written all night to fill the editorial columns of the paper that Zion prints.

The work he will delegate to none, believing that most of his converts have been reached through Leaves of Healing.

Returning to the subject of the New York trip, Dowie said: "The object of the campaign will be to preach the word of God as revealed to me as messenger of his body, to plant and to establish another tabernacle for the worship of God according to the Christian Catholic faith of Zion, the only true and authentic revelation of his divine will."

"I truly believe that the divine blessing will rest upon my efforts and that the church universal will triumph over sin and the devil. I shall preach the gospel of Christ, an opening for salvation for all who repent of their sins, leave all to follow him, trust and obey our Lord Jesus Christ and receive his word as spoken by me, as Millah and messenger of the covenant."

"I ask the prayers of every man and woman in New York that this may be accomplished."

"Will the members of the host preach? What will they say when they visit the people?"

"Some will preach and pray, but the host are instructed not to enter into any religious argument with any one. No person ever was converted to anything by wrangling. The host will simply call at the doors, extend the message of Christ and place in the hands of some member of the family a card of greeting which we have prepared."

"An invitation will be extended to each to come to our meetings. Further than that the host will do nothing except when opportunity offers to add some sufferer or pray with the sick, if requested so to do. They will ask nothing and receive nothing."

I asked Dowie regarding his title, Millah the Restorer, and this is what he told me:

"The name is not a title; it is reality. I firmly believe, in common with tens of thousands of my followers, that I have been sent by God in the spirit and the power of Millah as the third and last manifestation of that prophet."

Call For Short Skirts.

One thing is certain, fashion has set her heart on short dresses, and short dresses will be worn by who women this winter, says the London Graphic—very short for walking, shooting or golf, of a moderate length for urban wear.

The widow of Rev. Charles Spurgeon, the noted preacher, died in England Thursday.

BANQUET IN A SEWER.

Dinner Served in Novel Style at Watertown, Ia.

In a huge drain pipe brilliant with long strings of varicolored electric lights and banks of gorgeous flowers delegates to the annual meeting of the Iowa League of Municipalities while in session at Watertown, Ia., were entertained at an elaborate banquet a few nights ago, says the Chicago Inter Ocean. Strains of music floated wistfully through the long tunnel as the delegates dined, and the curving roof hung back with curious echo the speeches which brought the banquet to an end.

The "sewer banquet," as it was called, was the special feature of this year's convention of the league. It was held in Watertown's mammoth new concrete drain pipe, said to be the largest sewer constructed by any municipality. Mayor P. J. Martin, who presided at the dinner, said that the sewer banquet idea originated in a joke made in the council when work on the sewer was first started. When the sewer was nearing completion it was decided that the scheme was feasible, and it was determined to carry it out.

The sewer is 4,000 feet long and was built at a total cost of \$60,000. In its construction 40,000,000 feet of material were used. One block of the sewer was partitioned off into a temporary banquet hall, in which a table 400 feet long was placed. Around this table were seated many prominent Iowa officials, who enjoyed the novelty of the affair. Hundreds of electric lights were strung through the "banquet hall." Beautiful decorations and music combined to make the scene one of novel beauty. The banquet ended with proposals of toasts for Watertown's future prosperity.

CLEVELAND'S LITTLE JOKE.

Mr. President Tried It on a New Yorker. Was Called Him a "Fresh Guy."

"Morning papers" jelled a towheaded newsway in Pittsburgh at Grover Cleveland the other morning as the former president stuck his head out of a car window on the Pennsylvania limited train, says the New York Herald.

"What place is this, son?" inquired the former president.

"Pittsburg, sir. Have a paper?" responded the boy.

"Why, this can't be Pittsburg," said Mr. Cleveland. "The sun is out brightly, and there seems to be no sign of smoke," and he closed the window. The newsway met the conductor passing by and remarked, "That man is a fresh guy."

"Don't you know who that gentleman is?" asked the conductor.

"No, and I don't want to know him," replied the newsway.

"That's Grover Cleveland, formerly president of the United States," said the conductor.

"Bully gee!" exclaimed the newsway.

YALE MEN AS MONEY MAKERS

Eight Act as Pallbearers, Others Drive Wagons, Cut Wood, Etc.

Some interesting and significant statements are shown in the Yale Record of their trip, recently issued at New Haven, Conn., says the New York Tribune. According to a careful canvass, more than \$30,000 was earned by the students during the summer for their winter tuition. Of this amount \$10,000 was earned by thirty-seven sophomores.

More money was earned by private tutoring than in any other way, but among the queer ways of earning money was that of acting as pallbearers at funerals by eight men working together. Driving milk wagons, collecting for charities, painting, wheeling invalid chairs, selling spring water, cutting wood, selling violets at Junior proms and collecting for trucking companies were other ways of making money to meet expenses at the university.

Madison Military Show.

Mrs. Wallace Radcliff and other women prominent in society had charge of a hat show under the auspices of the Audubon society at the Raleigh hotel, in Washington, the other day, says the New York Herald. The leading milliners of the city sent samples of their prettiest hats to show that good style and bird protection are not incompatible. The Audubon society in Washington has many prominent members. President Roosevelt is one of its honorary vice presidents; also Bishop Butler and Mr. Charles J. Bell. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Walsh are life members. Mr. Walsh is noted for his protection of animal and bird life on his extensive estate in Colorado. Following the action of the Audubon society of New York and several other states, the society of the District of Columbia has entered into an agreement with the Millinery Merchants' Protective association.

Ladies' Coats.

Our line of Coats for Ladies, Misses, and Children is varied and complete. Style, elegance, and comfort are combined in their making.

COLD WEATHER

Is here and our Coats are the proper thing for the season. They are in the latest designs and styles and range in price from \$1.50 up.

Ladies' and Misses' Coats, Walking Skirts, and Fur of the season's newest productions are here. We invite your inspection of our varied stock.

JAS. F. YEAGER.

There is But One Stetson Hat.



Jas. F. Stetson is the only hat manufacturer of Stetson Hats. There are many imitations and many hats called Stetson. Look on the sweat band of your hat. If it is stamped Jas. F. Stetson it is a Stetson—If not, an imitation. We have the only complete line of Stetson's, \$2.50 to \$5. Also a full line of "Chamois" Hats at \$3.

ROBINSON BROTHERS, The Hattermakers.

Gastonia Banking Co.

Gastonia, N. C.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS, \$75,000.00

State Bank Incorporated May 13, 1903

STATE AND COUNTY DEPOSITORY

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JNO. F. LOVE, President	J. C. G. LOVE
R. C. G. LOVE, Vice Pres.	J. C. G. LOVE
JAS. A. PAGE, Cashier	EDGAR A. LOVE
	ROBT. A. LOVE

GOOD NEWS and BETTER NEWS!

Since the last time we made mention of our stock we have received two car-loads, (50) fifty head of nice Tennessee wares and horses, and we can now show you the best lot of stock we have had at any one time in a year. These stock have been carefully selected by our old friend and buyer, Mr. G. A. Anderson of Johnson City, Tennessee. And he knows his business. He has shipped us 14 car-loads of stock, making a total of 350 head during the past 12 months. We have disposed of 300 of them and now have the two fresh cars of 50 head to offer you. Among them are a lot of nice mated and matched teams or pairs, suitable for farm work or heavy wagon use, and almost any kind of a male or horse you may want can be found at our stables. Remember we sell either for cash or on time, and every animal guaranteed as represented when sold. It is useless to say that we sell them cheap or reasonable, for when we say that we have handled nearly five hundred head the past year, any reasonable man would know that the prices were satisfactory. All we ask is a chance to show you our ability to please you, both in stock and price. Call and see us whether you are ready or not to buy. Our hitching lot below stables is free to all, drive in and feed.

When you are in need of a good buggy, nice surrey, or carriage of any kind, we can furnish it to you at a low price.

We also carry a full line of farm and spring wagons, drays, and several kinds of one-horse wagons, all sizes harness, saddles, collars, bridles, whips, and winter lap robes, the prettiest patterns, and ranging in price from \$1.50 to \$12.00, and we have a lot of choice Turf Seed Oats of our own raising for sale at our store.

CRAIG & WILSON

The Gazette Job Office for Neat Printing.