

He'd make a mighty good governor, Klutz would.

In an entertaining letter from Davenport College which we publish today, it is stated that President Weaver has organized the girls into a fire company. And why not? The alarm of fire often strikes terror and creates a panic for the reason that those who are alarmed don't know what to do. A well-trained fire company will know just what to do when the alarm is sounded.

When a fellow walks into the Charlotte Observer on a matter of science it is usually like walking into a steel trap that's set for him. Not wanting to get a leg snapped off in any sort of a trap, we stand off and snigger round at a safe distance while we inquire an inquiry about that Mr. Rads who lives on Mr. William Hastings' place near Cowan's ford, and has an easier job than Mr. Assayer D. Kirby Pope. Does Mr. Rads really trap minnows and skin 'em? And does the awful man really have a mix skin nailed to his cabin? Our dictionary defines mix as "a part or a wanton girl."

**ON PLANTING COTTON.**

If you had a great big farm would you plant it all in cotton? The problem of how much cotton to plant this year is one on which the farmer is now doing some of his most serious figuring. The price of the staple, now at fifteen cents, is above any mark the younger generation of farmers has ever known, above any figure the older generation has known in thirty years, and beyond what either had dreamed of seeing this year if ever. Fif-

teen-cent cotton has a fascinating sound. It bids for a vastly increased acreage, it invites, it woos, it tempts, it charms with a mighty spell. Then there are those who predicted fifteen-cent cotton declaring that the staple will command high prices for five years to come, that in the conditions and prospects there are no factors potent enough to force the price downward to old figures, that the days, in fact, of low-priced cotton are ended and that the long-looked for golden day of the Southern farmer's prosperity is suddenly about to burst upon him with an overflowing soon-tide of refulgence.

Naturally, too, the fertilizer man feels happier over the prospects. Nor is he exerting himself to pluck away any of the roseate tints that adorn the resplendent drop curtain now concealing the stage on which the great game of selling this year's cotton crop will be played.

The conditions urge and the prospects invite the farmer to do his utmost. Truly the situation is an interesting one. And difficulties are not wanting when it comes to determining what it is best to do. But easy problems interest easy people; the difficult ones interest those who glory in grappling with them. The hardy common sense which has helped so many Southern farmers to succeed in times of financial adversity will not, we believe, forsake them under present conditions of fairer promise.

There is a safe way. In the days when cotton was five and six cents men planted liberally, but did not reap profits bountifully. They learned however to raise cotton economically. The safe way is not to depart from the principles of thrift and economy. There's money in cotton at fifteen cents, good money, big money. The prudent farmer will plant all the cotton he can reasonably hope to pick out. Then he will raise his own supplies. He will practice his usual economy in fertilizing,

cultivation, and harvesting. He will raise both cotton and supplies for the smallest outlay consistent with good business principles. And then if cotton brings a good price, he can sell and get his money; if it is too low, he has raised his supplies and put himself in condition to hold for better prices. The thing for the cotton planter the South over seems to be to fix himself to keep his cotton off the market and then raise all the cotton he can.

By reason of the recent change in the W. A. Slater Company Mr. R. L. Swan becomes manager of the store, succeeding Mr. Bright who has returned to Durham. Mr. Swan comes to Gastonia from Augusta, Ga., and is a welcome addition to the business circles of the town. We welcome the firm to a prominent place in our advertising columns to-day.

**Electric Power Plant.**

Messrs. Shedd, Sons & Co., of Providence, Rhode Island, have taken an option on the shoal at Boston mill, one mile above Oxford Ford on the Catawba river, and are thinking of putting up an electric plant to furnish power for the cotton mills in Newton and Maiden. A representative of the company had a conference with the Newton cotton mill men Tuesday night. Plans and prices were submitted, but no contracts have yet been signed. The company seems to be composed of responsible men who mean business.

**Mabel Paige Coming.**

Charming little Mabel Paige comes to the opera house for three nights commencing Monday, Feb. 1st. This ever popular little actress has been playing to the capacity of the Academy of Music in Charlotte this week, and the management have decided to charge the same price during the engagement as in the larger cities, namely 10, 20 and 30 cents; besides this, ladies buying their seats for Monday night before 6 p. m. will receive them at half rate, namely 15 cents. The "Princess of Patches" is the opening bill and ought to fill an opera house to the capacity. The vaudeville acts are of a high order and include the marvelous "Hermion," "Happy Hooligan" "Hynman and DeTrace" and others.

**FROM DAVENPORT COLLEGE.**

**A Gaston Girl Gives The Gazette's Readers Some Interesting Items From Lenoir's Noted School.**

Lenoir, Jan. 27.—Prof. Weaver and the girls of Davenport college have organized a fire company to be ready in case of an emergency. The officers elected were: Chief, Miss Kate Wagg; Captains for the second floor, Misses Margaret Newell and Flora Rutledge; Captain for the third floor, Miss Virginia Stover.

We propose to have a well organized and well disciplined Company. Greensboro Normal has been a warning and a lesson to us. Last Friday evening at four o'clock Miss Norwood gave a lecture on Art to the students in the college chapel. This was a rare treat and one that will not soon be forgotten by the student body. We were held spell-bound as she told us of the great masterpieces like Raphael's Sistine Madonna and the Last Supper by Da Vinci, as she had seen them abroad. We are anticipating the repetition of this pleasure many times during the term.

The Henry Timrod Society will give a recital next Friday night in the college chapel. The programme will consist of dramatic plays, recitations and songs.

I must not forget to mention the delightful way in which the young ladies were entertained by our president's wife and other members of the faculty on Saturday evening between the hours of seven and ten. We first engaged in a musical contest conducted by Mrs. Weaver. A romance in musical numbers was rendered by her in the sweetest, most inspiring strains, each selection answering a question asked concerning the romance. The successful contestant was Miss Annie Kate Jones. The prize was a picture of the famous musician, Beethoven. Mrs. Nolley, in a most happy manner, presented the prize. The remainder of the evening was spent in playing numerous pleasing games. So you see we are not only looked after in our school work, but in other things as well, for which we are very grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Weaver. M. R. H. D. F. C., Jan. 27, 1904.

Subscribe to THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

**Among the Churches.**

A. R. P. church—Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. by the pastor, Dr. J. C. Galloway.

Presbyterian Church—Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday by the pastor, Rev. M. McG. Shields.

St. Michael's Catholic church—Catechising at 2:30 p. m. and services at 3 p. m. Sunday, Rev. Fr. James, O. S. B., pastor.

Main Street Methodist Church—Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday by the pastor, Rev. E. L. Bain. Epworth League at 6:15 p. m.

At the People's M. E. Church, West Airline Street, Rev. W. S. Fitch, pastor, Sunday services as follows: 10:30 a. m. Praise Service followed at 11 a. m. by Divine Worship and a sermon by the Pastor on The Higher Christian Experience and Life. This service especially for Spiritual Culture. 3 p. m. Song Service and Sunday School. 7:30 p. m. People's meeting with varied program of music, responsive service and sermon or address by the Pastor.

**SOMETHING NOVEL**

in the way of photographic work, our buttons, pins, brooches and other novelties are quite popular.

We copy from any picture or you can sit for the negative. Have you seen specimens of our latest work

**JOHN GREEN,**  
Davis Block Phone 137

**NOTICE.**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of county Commissioners of Gaston County will receive bids, on First Monday in February, 1904, for plowing the public roads of the county with the County Road Machines. The contract for plowing said roads to be awarded by Townships. Parties bidding will bid so much per mile and state what township they are bidding on. The road machines to be furnished by the county and all labor, power etc. to be furnished by party receiving the contract. Usual privileges reserved. By order of the Board. M. A. CARPENTER, Clerk. 29c3.

**CLEARANCE SALE**

TO MOVE STOCK ON HAND AND MAKE READY FOR NEW FIRM & SWAN-SLATER COMP'Y

You know what this means—it means you'll have a chance to buy our good Clothing, Overcoats, Odd Pants, Underwear etc., at very low prices. We're bound to make each season take care of itself. We want to reach every man in Gastonia and adjacent territory, not only to tell him how good our clothes are, but how little money it takes to get them. You'll get the benefit now. You can stay away from this sale if you wish, but you'll lose money if you do.

**W. A. Slater Co.**  
Corner Store Under Opera House.  
P. S. Will show nice Men's and Boy's Shoes in few days time.

**SPECIAL 15 DAY CUT SALE!**

In order to have more room for fitting up our shop with all the latest and up-to-date pneumatic stone cutting tools, we offer, to save moving, all finished monuments at greatly reduced prices if sold at once. Don't let this opportunity pass by but see us today as we want to save handling.

Respectfully,  
**Torrence Brothers**  
F. HAPPERFIELD, Mgr.



**BIG CUT SALE AT THOMSON COMPANY'S**

**25 and 50 Per Cent Off**

Beginning Tuesday, February 2nd, and continuing for one week only we will offer to the public Clothing and Shoes at a discount of 25 and 50 per cent. This is our last Big Cut Sale for this season and you should not miss this golden opportunity of getting what you want at these unheard of prices.

LOT NO. 1—Contains high grade Clothing at a reduction of 25 per cent from regular price. Also 50 pairs men's and ladies' Shoes at a discount of 25 per cent.

LOT NO. 2—Clothing at a reduction of 50 per cent from regular price and 50 pairs men's and ladies' Shoes at 50 per cent off.

Throughout our Men's Furnishing Department there will be a big reduction of prices for this week only.

Remember! This is our last big cut sale for the season and you can't afford to miss it.

**Thomson Company**  
THE PEOPLE'S STORE