

**The Gastonia Gazette.**  
 Small Every Tuesday and Friday.  
 W. P. MARSHALL, Editor and Publisher.  
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**TUESDAY, DEC. 30, 1904.**

If Parker had only been elected it would have been so easy for some people to explain the slump in cotton. Over in Franklin county they are telling the Lonsbury Times that Parker's nomination did it.

Even if both houses of Congress should pass Senator Platt's measure to reduce the South's representation, says The St. Louis Republic, Mr. Roosevelt would politely return it with his veto. This seems a daring statement but is in keeping with the light vein in which some of the large newspapers regard the proposition. The Republic calls it "a pusillanimous Platitude destined to 'cut no ice.'"

**THE GOVERNMENT GUESSING.**  
 What business, anyhow, has the Secretary of Agriculture to be "guessing" at the size of the cotton crop, especially if as Congressman Livingston declares, his guesses have cost the South eighty millions of dollars this year? In the first place, in whose interest is it any more that all these statistics of acreage and bales are collected? If it is in the interest of the farmer, why should government guesses and forecasts be made which rob them of millions? In calling for the data on which these estimates were based Mr. Livingston is undertaking to do his people some service. He should be supported by the administration and by the friends of the Agricultural Department, who should see to it that this department of the government is cleared of all suspicion of collusion with speculators and gamblers. If statistics must be gathered, it ought to be enough for the Secretary of Agriculture to publish actual returns of acreage planted and bales ginned and then let speculators and others read what meaning they please from the figures.

But with all the criticism directed now against the Secretary of Agriculture, it should be remembered that one short year ago nothing was said from this end of the line in disparagement of this bureau when its seasonally small estimate sent cotton in a few hours from 11:50 to 12:05, from which figure it went on and on toward 17 cents. He was a pretty good sort of a fellow then. If the break he has just made on this year's crop isn't ever made any more the Secretary of Agriculture will do. It is related of Henry Clay that only once did he play loosely and he then lost \$5,000 at one sitting. A friend said to Mr. Clay, "Isn't it a pity your husband gambles so much?" "Oh, I don't know," replied the old lady demurely and forgivingly, "Mr. Clay usually wins."

**Child Dies From Hydrophobia.**  
 Cherryville News, 10th.  
 The little 10 year old boy of Mrs. Sallie Legerfeld died Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock from hydrophobia.

The child was bitten by a dog's spout to be mad about the 25th of October, but he was carried to Charlotte and had the mad disease applied. The same attack for about half an hour, and the child was brought home and the wound soon healed. The child's mother thought all danger passed, but such was not the case. The little fellow was taken sick last Saturday with a headache and complained of feeling bad. Monday he continued to grow worse and a physician was summoned. The doctor said he thought the child had pneumonia, but later after a more thorough diagnosis he pronounced it hydrophobia.

The child suffered a great deal until death came to his relief. He was conscious up to the time he died and told his people about how and where he wanted to be buried.

**THE MAN WITH THE HOE.**  
 Dat McNeill man mus' tek his pen. An' write some poetry, sho' About dat gerritytype machine Down on de basement flo'.  
 Ill' metes de words de gemman writes.—  
 De devil's in dat mol'. Die man don't lak to meete youn dare, I wateh' d' des' gift' ca'.  
 As den dat twenty thousand' a' alwhal' Hah many's dat a' mil't? W' folks, feger dat fer me, Dis kinky haid ain't in it.  
 Dar double fisted Jewplex thing— Oh, you a' gwin to write, you know, And call de man what tends to hit De Man what a' gut de Hoe.  
**TO CONSIDER COTTON.**

**Mass Meeting to be Held in Dallas January 7th.**  
 At a meeting of farmers and business men in the Court House at Dallas Saturday, Mr. Moses Stroup was made president and Mr. John C. Puett, secretary.

The following resolution was adopted and the county papers were requested to publish it: "Resolved that we recommended to the farmers of Gaston county that they hold their cotton until present prices improve, and that they and others interested assemble in mass meeting at the court house in Dallas on Saturday, the 7th of January, 1905, at 11 o'clock to consider what ought to be done in the present condition of the market."

**CLOVER CULLINGS.**  
**Alpine Lodge of Masons Elects Officers and Has Banquet— News Items and Personal.**

Clover, S. C., Dec. 19.—As the year of 1904 is almost done and will soon be numbered with the past, carrying with it the joys and sorrows of another year, I will endeavor to give you a few facts from our quiet little town which go to fill up the last pages of the records of 1904.  
 Alpine Lodge A. F. and A. M. met in regular communication on Friday afternoon, December 18th, at 2 o'clock, this being the time for the election of officers to serve for the next year. The election resulted as follows: W. T. Beaumgard, W. M.; John L. Stacey, S. W.; J. Meek Smith, J. W.; H. L. Wright, Treas.; S. M. Fairis, Secy.; S. N. Stacey, S. D.; L. D. Wade, J. D.; J. E. Jackson, S. S.; John M. Smith, I. S.; W. J. Mullenaux, Tyler. After the election our lady friends were admitted to the hall and witnessed the installation of the officers. After these exercises the brethren with their lady friends repaired to the vacant store room of Capt. W. B. Smith, where the stewards, with their assistants, had a sumptuous repast spread. All present did justice to the repast. At this time the Lodge called from labor to refreshment until 6:45 p. m., at which time they reassembled at the hall and brother J. Walter Smith was passed to the second degree, and brothers Ben Harmon and W. M. Downs were raised to the sublime degree of M. M.

There will be a meeting of Pine Camp W. O. W. on Monday night, Dec. 26th, at which time it has been ordered that an oyster supper be served to the brethren. And I am sure, from the knowledge I have of the brethren who have charge of the arrangements, that it will be a grand success. All the members are requested to be present.

Mr. Joe L. Matthews is soon to occupy the R. A. Clinton house on King's Mountain street and we understand it is his intention to keep boarders.  
 Mrs. J. T. Jones, Misses Bessie Adams and Mattie Caldwell went to Gastonia Saturday shopping. Their train was delayed by a wreck and they did not get back until 6:30 Sunday morning.

Dr. W. M. Steinmeyer received a telegram last Thursday announcing the death of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Gant, who lived in the lower part of this State.

**LOWELL LOCALS.**  
 Lowell, Dec. 19th.—The first month of public school has been fairly well attended, something over a 125 having been enrolled. The school will close for the holidays on Thursday evening of this week at which time Prof. Henry Louis Smith of Davidson College will give a public lecture. All who can should hear him. The teachers will spend the holidays at home. Prof. McArthur will spend the holidays at his home in Fayetteville.

Mr. Paul P. Murphy spent Sunday with his brother in Charlotte, returning Monday morning.

Mr. Walters of the depot force has gone to Robeson county to visit home folks the first time since he came here, over a year ago.

Alphens Vaughn, manager of the Singer Sewing Machine Company's Raleigh office, shipped out Saturday owing a large number of people and leaving two mortgages on what property he had. He left a wife and three children.

J. H. KENNEDY & CO. J. H. KENNEDY & CO.

**A CALL TO CHRISTMAS BUYERS**

Our elegant line of holiday goods is now open for inspection. Call early and make your selections.

**Christmas is Coming**

and everybody who sees our BEAUTIFUL DISPLAY OF HOLIDAY ATTRACTIONS is glad of it. Popular presents here at popular prices. Our—

**Fine Holiday Stock**

is full of quality, variety, beauty and good taste. It is easy to select from, supplies exactly what you want, and it would be a mistake to buy before you see it. Remember this splendid assortment contains the right thing for every person, old, middle aged or young. COME EVERYBODY!

**J. H. KENNEDY & CO.**

**CHRISTMAS**

With all its pleasures brings its perplexities. Most people know how much they can spend for gifts and who they intend to remember; but what to give—that's the great question. Let us suggest a few things for your consideration. For women, what would be more acceptable than a nice pair of shoes (patent or plain kid) or a pair of felt slippers? For men we have hundreds of gifts—

- |                 |               |              |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| MUFFLERS        | GLOVES        | HOSIERY      |
| NECKWEAR        | HANDKERCHIEFS | SHOES        |
| HOTTER SLIPPERS | SHIRTS        | NIGHT SHIRTS |
| HAIR            | UMBRELLAS     | SUSPENDERS   |

**ROBINSON BROTHERS**

**CAPITAL \$100,000.**

**First National Bank Increases Its Capital From \$50,000 to \$100,000—Three New Directors to be Elected.**

The announcement is made by the officials of the First National Bank that the capital stock of this bank will be increased in January from \$50,000 to \$100,000. Mr. L. L. Jenkins, the president, returned Friday from Washington where he perfected arrangements whereby the increase will become effective the first of the year.

Another change of even more interest will be the addition to the board of directors of Mr. George A. Gray, Mr. R. R. Ray and Mr. Henry M. McAden, three of the strongest business men in this section of the State.

Mr. Ray is secretary and treasurer of the McAden mills at McAdenville, while Mr. McAden is a director of the First National Bank of Charlotte, president of the Piedmont Insurance Company, a director of the National Bank of Gaffney, and is officially connected with several other business enterprises. Mr. Gray is the promoter of the new Gray Manufacturing Company and is one of the most progressive cotton mill men of this section.

The addition of these gentlemen to the board of directors will serve to strengthen a financial institution which is already one of the strongest in the State. Gastonia is to be congratulated on having such men allied with her financial interests. Mr. L. L. Jenkins, the president, and Mr. S. N. Boyce, the cashier, are two of the town's most prominent citizens and are both thoroughly identified with its best interests.

**Cherryville Items.**

Gleaned from Cherryville News.

Mr. S. S. Manney contemplates a change in business the first of the year.

There will be a Christmas tree at the Baptist church on Saturday night before Christmas.

We understand that Mrs. Lola Conley has received orders from Tennessee for some of her tailor made hats. She has made quite a reputation as a milliner.

Mr. Frank Robinson and Miss Fannie Thornburg will be married Sunday at the Methodist church. Rev. J. B. Taylor, the pastor will officiate. We failed to learn at what hour the ceremony will be performed.

The Sunday school of St. John's Lutheran church, will observe the Xmas season by having a service and tree for the children on Sunday, Xmas night. The exercises are to begin at six o'clock, so all the little folks may attend. The public is invited to be present and enjoy the treat that is in store for all.

Louis Jones, of Lilesville township, Anson county, was placed in jail at Wadesboro Friday on a charge of wife murder. A coroner's inquest showed that Jones had choked his wife and beat her to death.

If you want a nice horse and buggy see Davis & Son.

**A MAN'S CHRISTMAS**

Come to a man's store for a man's things—

- Overcoats,
- Suits,
- Umbrellas,
- Dress Suit Cases and Trunks,
- Hats,
- Rain-Coats,
- Handsome Mufflers,
- Gloves for every wear,
- Fancy Vests,
- Suspenders in individual boxes,
- Silk and Linen Handkerchiefs,
- Beautiful line of New Neckwear.

The Odd Lot Sale is still on.

**Swan-Slater Co.**  
 Outfitters for Men and Boys.

LET US REMIND YOU!

is authorized to act as Guardian, Trustee, Executor or Agent. We do banking business, sell Real Estate, rent houses, write all kinds of insurance including Fire, Life, Health, Accident and Liability, Execute Bonds. We pay interest on saving deposits.

**GASTON LOAN & TRUST CO.**  
 E. G. McLURD, Treas.

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY EXCURSION RATES**  
 VIA  
**Southern Railway.**  
 1904-1905.

Account Christmas and New Year Holidays, Southern Railway will sell tickets at extremely low rates. Dates of sale of tickets to the general public, December 23, 24, 25 and 31, 1904, and January 1, 1905, with final limit January 4, 1905.

Dates of sale of tickets to students and teachers, upon presentation of Certificate signed by the Superintendent, Principal or President of National and Colleges, December 17 to 21, inclusive, with final return limit January 8, 1905.

For information as to rates, schedules, sleeping car accommodations, and any agent, or  
 H. L. VENTON, T. P. A.  
 Charlotte, N. C.  
 J. H. WOOD, D. P. A.  
 Asheville, N. C.

S. H. HARDWICK, Pass. Traffic Mgr., Washington, D. C.  
 W. H. TAYLOR, Gen'l. Pass. Agent, Washington, D. C.

**Thomson Co.**  
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**Christmas Greetings**  
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**Thomson Co.**  
**Thomson Co.**

**THE USEFUL--BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS--GIFT!**

The Lasting gift—the gift that brings the giver to mind every day—the gift that combines beauty with utility—the gift that will seem more precious in Her eyes than any other can only be found at Our store.

We have a very interesting collection of dainty BROOCHES set with DIAMONDS, PEARLS and other precious stones. The most beautiful assortment of GOLD and SILVER headed UMBRELLAS, Sterling comb, brush and mirror sets and hundreds of other lovely articles suitable for HER.

**AND THINK OF HER JOY!**

And the smile with which she will greet you on Christmas Day.

We have something to meet every taste, to match every purse, in our unequalled stock of WATCHES, JEWELRY, CUT GLASS, SILVER NOVLTIES, CLOCKS, hand-painted CHINA, ART GOODS etc. etc.

If you had not thought of gifts in our line, come in and let us show you our stock of beauties to help your conclusions.

**TORRENCE-MORRIS CO.**  
**Up-to-date Jewelers.**

**NEW GOODS**

Our house is packed full and still they come. Come and get our prices and if we don't prove that we can beat the State don't buy; 32 spools thread for 9c; 60-inch all wool dress goods worth 99c everywhere, our price only 48c. Children's heavy shoes worth 65c, our price only 24c, while they last. Our stock is complete. Give us a trial before buying.

**WHITFIELD DRY GOODS CO.**  
 J. S. Whitfield, Mgr.

**THE GREAT FAMILY MEDICINE**

**THE DORF'S BLACK DRAUGHT**

Thorford's Black Draught comes to you as a relief for the entire system and keeps the body in health than any other medicine made. It is always ready in any emergency to break ailments that are frequent in any family, such as indigestion, biliousness, cramps, diarrhea, and stomach aches.

Thorford's Black Draught is the standard, unvarying remedy for the stomach, bowels, liver and kidney troubles. It is a cure for the stomachic troubles which so frequently attend the doctor. It is good for children as it is for grown persons. A dose of this medicine every day will soon cure the most obstinate case of dyspepsia or indigestion, and when taken as directed brings quick relief.

DORF'S, Inc., Dec. 23, 1904.  
 Thorford's Black Draught is the standard, unvarying remedy for the stomach, bowels, liver and kidney troubles. It is a cure for the stomachic troubles which so frequently attend the doctor. It is good for children as it is for grown persons. A dose of this medicine every day will soon cure the most obstinate case of dyspepsia or indigestion, and when taken as directed brings quick relief.

Ask your doctor for a picture of Thorford's Black Draught and if he says it is good for you, buy it at once. It is the only medicine that will cure the stomachic troubles which so frequently attend the doctor. It is good for children as it is for grown persons. A dose of this medicine every day will soon cure the most obstinate case of dyspepsia or indigestion, and when taken as directed brings quick relief.