

W. F. HARRIS, Editor and Publisher.
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TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1906.

Gaston is not a large county, but the value of its cotton crop forms no small item in its progressive prosperity. Last year the crop was 13,361 bales; the year before 12,577. At \$50 per bale, this means an annual income of more than \$600,000—enough every year to build six nice little cotton mills.

Speaking of Confederate flags, it is noteworthy that the average Confederate veteran doesn't warm up much to the "Stars and Bars"—scarcely recognizes it, in fact. Display a bunch of the four different kinds of these emblems of the Lost Cause and ask him which one is the Confederate flag. Instantly he designates the battle flag—a red field bearing a diagonal cross of blue set with white stars. "This is it! This is the one!" he exclaims. It is the flag he followed into so many bloody encounters and his eyes kindle at the sight of it. This flag was designed by General Beauregard, adopted after the first battle of Manassas, and was thereafter used in the army as the battling of the Confederacy.

Those of us who believe in the patriotic value of a full family life cannot fail to find satisfaction in ransacking the eye along the census columns which record the statistics of families in 1900. The family is from 25 to 33 1/2 per cent larger in the Southern than in the Northern States. In the latter, the average size is 3 to 4 persons, in the former 4 to 5 persons. In Gaston county the average private family is composed of five and four-tenths persons—a record that not a single county in any Eastern State from Maryland to Maine can touch. One county in Maine is the only new England county that shows an average as high as five persons to the family. Fourteen other North Carolina counties have the same family average that Gaston shows; and above this group of fifteen, only three names appear with a higher average—Cherokee, highest of all with 5.6, and Macon and Swain with 5.5 each. The record of Cherokee is surpassed by very few counties in the South.

Reference was made in this column a week ago to the claim that on the court house square in Louisburg, "the original stars and bars, the Confederate battle flag, was first unfurled." The intention must have been to claim that here this flag was first raised in North Carolina. When the item was printed last week we too hastily, perhaps, took it in its broadest literal sense, of which view the inaccuracy is suggested by a moment's reflection. Many states preceded before North Carolina did; and even when Fort Sumter fell the Old North State was still in the Union. There must have been a battle flag therefore before North Carolina left the Union on the 20th of May, 1861, and under the circumstances it is natural to suppose that it was first raised upon the soil of some state which had already seceded. The honor seems to belong to Alabama. The Confederate Military History (Vol. 12, opposite page 369) shows colored illustrations of the four Confederate flags, and says of the "stars and bars" that it was raised at Mountgomery, the Confederacy's capital, March 4, 1861, by the grand-daughter of President John Tyler. If Louisburg can show that this event is antedated by the flag-raising on her own court house square, it will prove quite an interesting bit of history. We call upon Brother Thomas of the Louisburg Times to refresh his memory of these old war-time days back there and give us the facts and figures in the case.

BRIGHT ON FRUIT TREES.

Farmers Planting Cotton Again—New Set of Town Officials at Cherryville.

Cherryville, May 12.—The farmers of this section will not be likely to forget the 10th of May, 1906, especially those of them that had to plant their cotton fields the second time on account of the ravages that Jack Frost made. Some gardens sustained heavy losses in the beans and other tender vegetables. Since my last article and prior to the frost the apple and pear trees of this vicinity have been attacked by an enemy, the personality of which is not to be definitely portrayed. The effect is seen on the twig that bore the bloom, almost every one being dead, leaving the trees almost entirely destitute of fruit. Not a twig dead save those on which the prospective fruits had formed. Will some scientist explain the cause and give a preventive remedy?

The town election gave Cherryville a new set of officers save one alderman. Webster's old blue back says a new broom sweeps clean. We will see how it works with new officers. I guess the blackberry winter has broken. Cannot tell at this writing how the blackberry crop will pan out, as we are not growing that commodity. Cherryville has a job office in the printing business again.

FIRE BRIGHT ON FRUIT TREES.

The Dead Twigs Should be Cut Off and Burned.

Some of your correspondents complain that the apple-trees are affected by something that is killing many of the limbs and twigs and say that it is caused by some worm or insect. They are mistaken in supposing that it is the work of a worm or insect. Their trees are affected by what is called "Fire blight." It is caused by a fungus or germ. There is no known preventive. The best remedy is to cut off and burn all the dead twigs. If the dead twigs are left on the trees or on the ground the cause will remain and reappear next year. Cut off the twigs one foot below the dead part. G. Gastonia, May 14, 1906.

We are glad to print G.'s communication. Articles of practical value, brief and straight to the point, are always welcome in these columns, and we wish a dozen correspondents would aid each other, and our other readers as well, every issue in this way.

NO EXCUSE FOR CATARRH.

Worst Cases Quickly Cured by Breathing Hyomei. Guaranteed by J. H. Kennedy and Company. There is really not the slightest excuse for anyone having catarrh, now that Hyomei is so widely known and so easily obtained. The worst cases of catarrh are quickly cured, simply by breathing the remedy through the pocket inhaler that comes with every outfit.

Used in this way for a few minutes four times a day, every particle of air that reaches the nose, throat and lungs is laden with germ-killing and health-giving Hyomei. The sale of the old-fashioned stomach remedies for catarrh has been reduced to almost nothing since the introduction of Hyomei. J. H. Kennedy & Co. will tell you that their sales on this out-of-date line have fallen off at least two-thirds in the last few years while the demand for Hyomei has increased as its curative powers became more widely known. The complete outfit, consisting of a neat pocket inhaler, a medicine dropper, and a bottle of Hyomei costs only one dollar, while extra bottles can be obtained for 50 cents, making Hyomei the most economical, as well as the most reliable method for curing catarrh. J. H. Kennedy & Co. positively guarantee a cure when Hyomei is used in accordance with directions, or they will refund the purchase price. -M15-29.

Best Selley to It!

Charlotte Observer. "Some years ago a similar charge was brought against a North Carolina preacher and when placed on trial he was asked if he believed that Moses wrote the Pentateuch. The reply was that he did not believe he wrote it all. 'What part did he not write?' was asked. 'That giving an account of his own death.'—Observer Editorial, 24. Our wife had been wool gathering. The divine who made this report was Rev. James Woodrow, D. D., of Columbia, S. C., who was hailed to the Church court on account of his pamphlet on evolution, issued in 1894.

The returns from the different townships of Iredell county show that about 600 voters in Iredell will not be able to vote this year by reason of their failure to pay their poll tax. There are about 4,500 in the county who will have the right of suffrage.

LOSS OF MAIL TO R. F. D.'S.

Caused by Patrons who Mail their Letters and Buy Money Orders at the Postoffice.

R. F. D. News for May. Beginning April 1, 1906, rural carriers will start to keep account of the number of pieces of mail handled on their route. So we have been notified at this office. This practice was discontinued Dec. 31, 1905. Now, brother carriers, this means something. The Postoffice Department is going to act in some way or this would never have been brought back for the carrier to do again. Some routes may be discontinued. Maybe yours.

There is not enough mail handled on some routes to suit Uncle Sam and we all know that rural free delivery is not paying like some people would like to see it. "Just think, some carriers only handle from 2,000 to 3,000 pieces a month." Here is the reason why we don't get more pay for our services. We do not collect enough mail on the route. It is the number of pieces we bring to the postoffice that counts. This is where the Department figures. I think rural carriers can help to remedy this a great deal in some districts. I can, for one, by experience. Some carriers will say: I go more miles than brother carrier, worse roads, longer hours and even if I don't handle as much mail as he does I get just the same pay. That is not the point. The Department is watching your report on the number of pieces handled and watching it closely. An honest carrier who wishes to remain in the service will not doctor his report.

Now comes the most important part. Patrons having boxes on rural routes do not patronize the rural carrier as they should and I believe it is safe to say that every carrier will agree with me here. All patrons to hear them talk on free delivery, they would not do without it at any price. It is the best thing we ever had and so on, etc. And at the same time they are holding back the record of the service. They will go to some town and do their mailing business at the postoffice. Send money orders and registered letters, buy postal cards and stamps and sometimes the carrier will pass the patron on his way, arriving at the postoffice first. Especially at the end of the week this is done. Notice your report how it falls off on Friday and Saturday. Very seldom the mail does not leave the postoffice before the carrier arrives with his mail.

Now then patrons are ignorant of the fact that they are holding back the record of the route and doing it an injustice. I have heard them say so when I would show them their mistake. If our wants were put before them I believe they would listen to our plea "More mail wanted." How do we know they do business at the postoffice? When a registry return receipt comes addressed to the patron, we know he sent no register by the carrier. Then again a patron will meet a carrier and say "I sent for so and so by money order or registered letter, it should be here to-day," and many other remarks they tell the carrier, which they have not patronized the rural delivery in ordering. All of this holds back our record to the Department. Can't this be remedied? Let us try? Give it a few moments of your thoughts. I think every carrier can increase the amount of mail collected from 25 to 50 per cent or more per month. Talk to your patrons on your route. Have some circulars printed, get an article in your local papers to let them know that your mail wagon is the postoffice and they must give you their mailing business if they want the R. F. D. service to be continued by their door. More mail to handle means more pay for all of us. C. A. VAN DOREN. Hamilton, O.

Mathematics From Books.

Woman's Honor Commission for April. The president of the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Library at Washington tells of an interesting communication received by the librarian from a gentleman in a near-by town.

"Sir and Friend," so the letter ran, "what I want to know does the Carnegie library lend books teaching Mathematics to persons outside the City of Washington? I desire Onie Books on Mathematics. I am alright on Spelling and pretty Fare as a Grammarian, if I do say it myself, but as Mathematics is so much for me, I desire the above information as to whether it can be loaned from Books."

The Piedmont Investment Co. of Charlotte has received a charter, \$40,000 capital, to promote the commercial, manufacturing, and mercantile interests of Charlotte, and to maintain club rooms to "promote equitable principles of trade." The incorporators are B. S. Mayes, J. H. Alexander, of Charlotte, J. W. Allison, of Raleigh, and others.

PAVING IS DEFECTIVE.

Greensboro Aldermen Will Hold Up Payments on Street Contracts.

Charlotte Observer. Greensboro, May 11.—The special committee of the board of aldermen made its report at the regular meeting this afternoon in the matter of the investigation of the paving of Elm street with vitrified brick, the report stating that the paving is defective and does not comply with the contract and specifications and recommending that no further sums be paid by the city to the contractor, the Southern Paving & Construction Co. of Chattanooga, Tenn., until said pavement is done, built and finished in substantial compliance with said contract and specifications.

The report is accompanied by a report of the expert engineer, G. C. White, of Durham, who was employed by the committee and assisted in investigating the paving work, by digging into it and examining it. The engineer's report is a lengthy document and explains the conditions found in the 15 excavations made, showing that the concrete foundation varied from the specifications of the contract, which provides for Portland cement, concrete, one, two, five volumes of cement, sand and stone and that some of the brick are not number one. The committee is composed of Mayor T. J. Murphy and Aldermen M. W. Thompson and O. C. Wyszog. On motion of Alderman Hunter the report was adopted and the committee continued. Thus the matter stands and speculation is rife as to the final outcome of the controversy.

\$25,000 Stock.

To be sold at a sacrifice—the entire stock of the Baltimore Racket Store is now in the hands of the A. C. Davis Salvage Co., the World's Greatest Bargain-Givers, to be sold in Nine Days. Sale will open Thursday at 9 a. m.

Death at the Loray.

Karl Ballard, the two year old son of Mrs. Addie Ballard of the Loray, died Friday morning of stomach trouble. The interment took place at the Loray cemetery Friday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

McAdenville Wins.

McAdenville defeated Mountain Island in a hard fought game of base ball Saturday at McAdenville. The score was McAdenville 5, Mountain Island 2. A large crowd attended the game.

Child Dead.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Reeves, of the Avon, were sorely bereaved by the death of their little 16 months-old girl, Edna Brown, which occurred late Thursday afternoon. The remains were taken to Mountain Island Friday for burial.

Mrs. Nancy Goodson Dead.

Mrs. Nancy Goodson died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Moses Buyum, near the Snowflake laundry Sunday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock of dropsy. Mrs. Goodson was about 80 years of age. The funeral services were conducted at the Mt. Zion church near Alexis yesterday afternoon.

Singing School Closes.

The singing school of Prof. J. L. Webb at the Loray closed Saturday night. The closing exercises included a candle light procession. A very large crowd was present from Lowell and McAdenville at the closing exercises. Prof. Webb will probably begin a school at the Arlington Mills this week.

Infant Dead.

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Cash were bereaved Sunday morning by the death of their two-month-old daughter, Mamie Lou. The funeral was conducted yesterday at noon from their home near the Loray Mills and the little child was laid to rest in the Loray cemetery. The funeral exercises were conducted by Rev. E. L. Bain.

President Presley Ill.

The illness of Dr. W. L. Presley, President of Dns West Theological Seminary, is a cause of anxiety to his friends. Last Wednesday he was not well enough to go to his lecture room and arranged to have his class meet him at his home. When he met them at the door he became dizzy and fell backward, striking his head violently against the floor. He was thought to be recovering from this when the message came over the wires Sunday to his son, Dr. E. W. Presley at Clover, that his father was worse and summoning him to come at once. Dr. Presley passed through Gastonia yesterday morning and left for Dns West on the noon train. Hundreds of our readers will read this item with anxious hope that this great and good man may soon be restored to health.

The Greatest Part

Of your life is spent in your clothes, therefore you should have them right. To be right they must fit properly—possess style—wear satisfactorily. Schluss Bros. & S. M. & S. Clothes fit correctly—the styles are up-to-date—the materials are excellent—the prices are moderate. Consideration, criticism, and comparison are invited—you'll profit thereby.

Swan-Slater Co.

Head to Foot Outfitters for Men and Boys.

Closed Up.

The Baltimore Racket Store is now closed and will remain closed until Thursday morning at 9 o'clock when the Davis Salvage Co. will offer to the people of Gastonia an interesting country their entire stock at a great sacrifice. Worth 25 Cents. The remaining issues of THE GAZETTE for the month of May are going to be worth five cents apiece to every family that takes the paper—that is, to every such family that is nice enough to use bluing on wash days. It is no fake or trick, but a straight business matter. The coupon on the lower right-hand corner of the first page is good for a five-cent worth of "wiggly-stick bluing." If you save five coupons, you get five sticks. There will be one coupon in each paper for the next five issues. Get to cutting. It is extravagance to let them go to waste.

A Collarless Bachelor.

The fact that Mr. Hugh Long was seen on the streets Saturday morning without a collar should not be put down against him. Mr. Long has a collar, but it came to pass that some one else was wearing it for him that day. It was this way: When in Walters' barber-shop for a shave Saturday, he hung his collar on the same hook with that of Mr. Joe Ratchford's. When Mr. Ratchford left, he found he couldn't easily wear two collars, and he just simply took the best one. Of course Mr. Long not wishing to be caught with another man's collar on, went collarless. The fact that Mr. Long is one of the most popular members of the Disunited Brotherhood of Gastonia Bachelors demands this explanation of his conduct.

SHORT NEWS ITEMS

Carl Schurz, veteran editor and publicist, died in New York yesterday morning. Raleigh is to have a \$50,000 laundry. It is to be hoped that it will not now have to wash so much soiled linen in public. A Philadelphia syndicate has begun operating the Sand Creek Gold Mine, six miles from Climax, in Randolph county. Robert Holmes Page is managing director of the company and recently \$15,000 worth of new machinery was unloaded there for the purpose of economizing the production of gold. The boiler at Mr. L. W. Page's saw mill four miles north of Hamlet exploded last Wednesday afternoon and demolished the entire plant. There were eight men at work under the shed at the time, but no one was hurt. Pieces of the boiler weighing 2,000 pounds were thrown 200 yards. Mr. Page says he will have to sell the boiler and engine for scrap iron. The damage amounted to about \$2,000.

California Fruit Crop Big.

San Francisco, May 10.—Prospects are good for large fruit shipments to the East in the season which has just opened. Fully 7,000 cars of green fruit and grapes will be sent east of the Rocky Mountains before the season closes next fall. This volume of business will mean between \$10,000,000 and \$12,000,000 to the California orchard owners. The cherry crop throughout the state is excellent, and shipments are going forward rapidly. The peach, pear and apple crops promise large yields. Grapes also give great promise. Apricot and prunes do not promise so well.

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NEW White Goods. As pretty and inviting as snow-banks in summer are our stacks of new white goods. Everything to please, to charm, to meet the opening spring and summer with in the way of white dress goods and trimmings is here in profusion. We invite you to see them. Persian Lawns, Linen Lawns, India Linons. We are also showing a vast variety and big lots of Brown Linens, Embroideries, Val Laces, Torchon Laces. Our third shipment. Enormous stocks. You will be pleased to see them. Come. JNO. F. LOVE

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