

Boone N. C.
Nov. 2 1888.

Editor DEMOCRAT.—I see in the *Enterprise* of date Nov. 1 Mr. J. L. Miller's denial of ever joining the prohibition party, but acknowledges his republicanism. I accord to Mr. Miller, as I do to every other man in a free country, to join any political or prohibition party he may desire. It is really none of my business. But political writers and republican defenders as is the Hon. James L. Miller in this present campaign, he ought to be consistent and not deny his affiliation with the prohibition party. Why is my friend Miller so short of memory? Did my friend join the prohibition party at Flat Top school house the time Mr. Engle spoke there during this campaign? J. M. Parsons told me that he saw Mr. Miller join Mr. Engle's party at the time stated above. I saw him write on the list that Mr. Engle passed when calling for joiners. Did my friend sign his name to the list? Did you write on Mr. Engle's list when he was passing it round for that purpose?

My esteemed friend says that Spainhour was badly used up by Bingham on that occasion heretofore referred to, that the Democrats hung their heads, "looked pale and forlorn, and says I acknowledged the logical defeat of Mr. Spainhour." When and where did I do this? Who of the Democrats on that occasion thought Bingham wore out Spainhour? How well you know that you wrote this statement as a campaign letter not regarding the facts. Mr. Miller claims to state facts as to himself about joining the prohibition party, do you want me to prove that you did join?

Now my friend I have no ill feeling toward you, I know you are like the other Radicals—do all you can to succeed—and you tried to disparage the effort of Mr. Spainhour so that none of your people would be taken from the party. You know that Spainhour was too much for Bingham.

You reflect on me as to my ignorance, well I do not claim great erudition have not rubbed my head against College walls as you. "But I know a spade when I see one." If I had the great force and erudition of Mr. Miller I would not allow the hills of Watauga to hold me, but I would go where my influence and erudition would be appreciated. T. L. C. Hartley.

By Rail in England.

When traveling by rail in England you are not only locked after by the officials with great care, but by law you are not allowed to be inquisitive; in fact, it is a criminal act to injure yourself even in an accident. In many cases you are locked in the coaches so that you cannot leave the train while it is in motion, and if the door should be unlocked and you jump out before the proper time or if you attempt to board a train after it has started, you are arrested and liable to a heavy fine. *Wilmington Messenger.*

Gold in the South.

In a recent issue the *Manufacturers Record* published a somewhat elaborate paper concerning gold in the South. Mr. W. G. Atkinson, the author of that article, has spent six weeks in

the famous Brindletown district of Burke county, North Carolina, and from his home in New York writes that all his former opinions have been more than confirmed by his explorations in that field. He says: "Many people honestly question whether or not there is free gold in the South. For years I have been replying that there was. While many districts have refractory ores of greater or lesser value, there are others without traces of sulphur, where pure gold may be obtained in abundance. But while I have reiterated this and have always been ready to demonstrate it, I have never thought that I should find it in such quantities, or so easily obtainable, as I now know that it can be. The South Mountains, of Burke county, North Carolina, has in itself, its foot-hills and the valleys they encompass, free gold in quantities I dare not estimate, but very great beyond all question. It exists in places and in groups of veins of quartz rock partly decomposed. But that is not all. Nature has provided on the crests of the elevations ponds of living water, forced up through the crevices of the underlying rocks, that can be used as a power to wash down the hills, open the vein groups, and enable man to possess himself of the treasures that have accumulated there for ages." The Major also says: "No one need go to California, Colorado, New or Old Mexico, or to South or Central America for free gold. It is in McDowell, Burke, Rutherford and Cleveland counties, in North Carolina, in the Dahlonega district of Georgia, and in many other localities of those States, in quantities that will pay large returns for honest, economical work. I wish to accentuate those two words, 'honest and economical,'" he adds, "because the curse of gold mining in the United States, and the reason why it has not been followed more generally as a business, is that gold mining companies have too generally been organized to get gold from stock holders and not from the ground. There have been too many promoters and speculators, and not enough practical miners. They first cheat stock-holders and pocket the proceeds. Next, the mining superintendent, taking the cue from the others, draws his salary from the company, but sends little or no gold to its treasurer, and then when the company's fund are exhausted, he resigns and goes elsewhere, carrying with him thousands of dollars. I have visited mines recently where this has been done repeatedly. It is a burning shame that such things are possible."

We do not wonder at Major Atkinson's indignation. He is devoted to science, is an engineer of more than ordinary abilities, and is a careful and enthusiastic investigator. But while we regard his charges as altogether too general, (for there are numerous companies honestly managed and paying large dividends, yet we call attention to them, because it is well known that capital is pouring into Honduras and other places in Central and South America, and into Mexico, to be used in gold mining, that might have

been invested in the South but for a belief that has become prevalent (on account of just such operations as Major Atkinson refers to) that all the stories told about profitable gold mining in the South are untruthful.

There is still another drawback to the sale of valuable gold properties in the South that must not be overlooked and for that the people who own them are partly responsible. No intelligent man will pay a large sum of money for something he cannot see. A gold mine untested may be worth little or much. To find out its value will cost considerable expenditure for labor and for a mining plant. Usually those who own what seems to be gold bearing lands will not allow capitalists time to make those expensive tests, giving, at the same time, a bond for a deed at a price agreed upon. Worse than that, they fix such values upon these untested properties as to deter men from examining them. There is also a small class of so-called mining engineers who fill the heads of land owners with false ideas of the value of their properties, whose sole motive is to secure the job of making an alleged examination and report, and to get a fifteen or twenty dollar fee. We have seen scores of these reports that were not worthy the paper they were written upon. They served only to fill the minds of their victims with visions of marvelous wealth and to unfit them for the duties of every day life.

Gold is a precious metal. It serves a grand purpose in human affairs. There is an immense quantity of it in the South, placed there by a kind Providence for man's use and benefit. Men can make money if they will pursue mining for it as a legitimate business, but all drawbacks to the successful prosecution of this business must first be removed, and it must occupy the same relation to other industries as do the mining of iron ores and the quarrying of marble and granite. When that time comes the South will become as famous for gold production as are California and Australia.

Death of Colonel John F. Hoke.

The telegraph brings us the news that Col. John F. Hoke, of Lincoln, died suddenly yesterday. He was standing on the porch of his residence, in Lincoln, viewing the Democratic parade, when he suddenly expired without warning.

The announcement will be a shock to a wide circle of acquaintances and friends, throughout N. C. John F. Hoke was one of the model men of our State. He was a substantial citizen, a genial companion, a hearty, cheerful friend. He belonged to the old school, a class rapidly passing away; with him disappears another name that has embellished the annals of the State.

No one was better known in the Piedmont country than John F. Hoke, and a practicing lawyer of long years standing, he was a familiar figure throughout a large portion of the State, and at the capital. He was a patriotic North Carolinian, and loved his State, her institutions and traditions.

An elder brother, Michael Hoke was one of the early Democratic candidates for Governor of the State; and a younger brother, Gen. Robt. F. Hoke, was one of the most conspicuous military figures on the Southern side in the late war.

An honest man, a true son of N. C., a good friend, and a gentle companion. We offer our poor tribute to his memory, and sincerely mourn his death, as a private affliction and a public loss.—*Wilmington Messenger.*

A Real Chinese Funeral.

New York, Oct. 29.—In the rear of the undertaking establishment at No. 85 Mott street this morning was presented a strange scene. Chinamen, musicians and inquisitive persons of all nations and creeds, moved about the dimly lighted place and were kept in order by a half dozen policemen. At the further end of the room on a black covered dais, was the casket which contained the remains of the black flag. A platoon top read, "Li Yu Doo died Oct. 19th '88, aged 56 years, we meet on the level, we part on the square." By the side of the casket was a long stick covered with yellow cloth bearing cabalistic characters. This was to serve as a ladder upon which the dead general is to mount to the skies. There were playing cards there that the departed might pass away the time pleasantly on his journey heavenward. Two feet apart from each other and in front of the casket were three pine tables. On the first were dishes of candied fruit and piles of oranges, and the second table almost groaned under the weight of a roasted pig. On either side of the porker were pillows of chrysanthemums and peonies, one of which bore the words, "My cousin at rest." On the third table were several bowls of rice in which stood burning Joss sticks and several ordinary wax candles. All that contained will be placed on the grave of Gen. Doo, that he may not want food should he awake before reaching the great unknown. About 10 o'clock a number of Chinamen began to dress themselves in long muslin gowns. Four of them were blue with white belts. The others, four in number, donned surplices with black belts. These were relatives of the dead man and the peculiar costumes were meant to indicate their great sorrow. These chief mourners ranged themselves along the side of the room and soon began chanting a weird song. Suddenly the band started the Dead March from Saul and continued playing for ten minutes. The music attracted great crowds when the "Melian" music had ceased the Chinese band played a funeral march which was almost deafening. *Wilmington Messenger.*

NOTICE.

I will sell 300 acres of land in Alleghany co. N. C., on the waters of Prathers Creek and Piney Branch 100 acres well grassed, a good dwelling house, orchard & co.

Will sell all or a part. Now is your chance for a bargain. I am going to sell. I am going west.

Daniel T. Jones Jr.

Oct. 8th. 1888. 1mo.

W. B. COUNCILL, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
June 12 1y. Boone, N. C.
T. E. LATHAM.
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Jefferson, N. C.
June 6 88. 1y.

W. C. NEWLAND,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Lenoir, N. C.
June 27. 88 1y.

E. F. LOVILL.
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Boone, N. C.

J. F. SPAINHOUR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Boone, N. C.
Special attention given to the collection of claims.
June 6. 88. 1y.

M. M. PARKS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Jefferson, N. C.
June 6. 88. 1y.

H. K. BOYER.
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Sparta, N. C.
June 6. 88. 1y.

DR. L. C. REEVES.
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
Office at Coffey's Hotel.
Boone, N. C.
June 6. 88.

W. B. COUNCILL, M. D.
Boone, N. C.
Resident Physician. Office on King Street north of Post Office.
June 12 88. 1y.

E. W. HENNESSEE.
FASHIONABLE BARBER,
Boone, N. C.
Clean towels, sharp razors and polite attention.

G. C. LANE & CO.
DRUGGISTS AND STATIONERS.
Elk Park, N. C.

Dealers in Pure Drugs, Chemicals, Paints, Oils, Varnish and Toilet articles. Fine Stationery a specialty. We keep the latest Novels and Periodicals in Stock.
GIVE US A CALL.

F. J. McMILLAN & SON
Mouth of Wilson, Va.
Manufactures all kinds of woolen goods, which they will send to your door in exchange for wool. They also keep a full line of goods on hand at SUTHERLANDS, ASHE, CO., N. C. They pay highest CASH prices for wool.

GO TO COL. G. W. RAY, Jefferson, Ashe, Co., for all kind

FURNITURE

Such as Bedsteads, Bureaus, Dressing Cases, Tables, Chairs, &c

His work is first class in material and finish. Prices very reasonable. One piece of his furniture is worth half a dozen pieces of the light shoddy, machine-made furniture and the finish equally as good. Give him a call June 12 88 6m.

STOVES!

STOVES!!

We can and will sell you

COOK

STOVES

Cheaper than you can buy them in Western N. C. L. M. BANNER & CO. Elk Park, N. C. June 6th. 1888, 6m.

Dr. W. A. WILLIAMS, of Mart, N. C. offers his professional services to the public in his own vicinity and surrounding country. Diseases of Females and Children a speciality. A prompt response given to all calls either day or night. Aug. 8th. 88.

C. D. Taylor & Bro

We would respectfully invite the attention of the people of Valle Crucis and surrounding country to our large and varied assortment of general merchandise.

WE CONSTANTLY KEEP ON HAND EVERY THING USUALLY FOUND IN A FIRST CLASS

STORE

and sell either for cash or produce at prices which defy competition. We prefer selling a large amount of goods at a small profit rather than a small amount at a large profit believing that the increase in our sales will justify us in this our New Departure.

Buying for cash we are enabled to obtain.

"BED ROCK"

prices on our goods and content with small profits we give our customers the benefit of the reduction thus obtained.

CALL AND SEE US.

No trouble to show goods and we will prove to your entire satisfaction that we mean just what we say.

We would particularly call your attention to our large and varied assortment of BOOTS and SHOES.

We make a specialty of the celebrated Asheville shoe which we sell at prices within the reach of all; these shoes are handsome and of the best material, every pair warranted to give satisfaction or money refunded.

In Ladies dress goods our stock is unrivalled.

Our Calicoes, Plaids, Worsteds, Brocades etc.

are of the latest styles and finest finish, also Hamburg Edging, Ribbons, Laces etc.

are very cheap. Our Millinery department is small but SELECT.

We constantly carry a fine line of Ready Made clothing of the latest styles. Also cloth suitable for making up.

Our stock consists of every variety from the cheapest JEANS to the finest CASSIMERES and DOB SKIN.

We also carry a fine line of

HARDWARE

and

HARNESS.

Saddles, Bridles etc. very cheap. Our line of Groceries is complete. We pay the highest market prices for country produce.

COME ONE COME ALL

And we will make your visit pleasant and profitable to you. A dollar saved is better than a dollar earned and you will positively save money by buying your fall and winter goods of us.

Our prices are lower than ever and we have ever kept the lead in reducing prices. No other store in the county does or can compete with us. Give us a call. Very resp.

C. D. TAYLOR & Bro.

Valle Crucis, N. C.