

# CHARITON COURIER.

C. P. VANDIVER, Editor and Proprietor.

MAN WAS MADE TO HUSTLE.

TERMS: 1.00 A YEAR IF PAID IN ADVANCE IF NOT PAID IN ADVANCE, 31.50.

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## CANDY 8 CENTS PER POUND AT S. M. WHITE'S.

### Two Prominent Chariton Countians.

The holiday edition of the *Linneus Bulletin* gives the following biographical sketches of two of Chariton county's prominent citizens, which we take pleasure in reproducing for the benefit of their numerous Chariton county friends:

#### JUDGE RUCKER.

Judge W. W. Rucker is the gentleman who holds the important position of circuit judge in the counties of Linn, Sullivan, Chariton and Carroll, composing the Twelfth judicial circuit. W. W. Rucker was born in Covington county, Va., where he was educated. In '73 he came to Missouri and taught school for two years. Then he began reading law in the office of Hon. S. P. Huston at Brookfield, and in '76 was admitted to practice. In the latter part of the year he located in Keytesville, and soon attained prominence among the lawyers of that section. In 1886 he was elected prosecuting attorney of Chariton county, and was re-elected in '88 and '90, and his record as a prosecutor is one of the very best in the state. In 1892, Judge Rucker was nominated by the Democracy for the position he now holds, and he was elected by a fine majority. Since he became judge, his official acts are notable for their accuracy, and he presides with dignity, gives close consideration to the causes before him and in every way dispenses justice as he understands the law. In 1896 he entered the lists for the congressional nomination from this district, and had a much larger number of delegates than any other man in the race, but was defeated by one of those combinations that are too common in conventions. Personally he is the soul of courtesy and is very popular.

#### PROF. J. E. PRATT.

This gentleman is a native of Linn county, being the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pratt who reared him on the Pratt farm west of Linneus. After attending district school till the winter of 1878-9 he entered the high school at Linneus, then under the able management of Prof. J. B. Tate. He next taught school and worked on the farm till he graduated from the Kirksville normal in 1886. He has since taught with success in Utica, Breckenridge and Hamilton, and in 1891 moved to Salisbury where for 7 years he has been superintendent of public schools and a prominent worker in county institutes, having served as an instructor every year since going to Chariton county. In politics he is a thorough Democrat and canvassed the county last year in the interest of Mr. Bryan. He also made speeches in Linn and Meadville, Linn county. He represented Linn county in the convention that nominated Judge Brace in 1886.

Prof. Pratt was married in 1886 to Miss Nora B. Larkins of Kirksville and they have two sons and two daughters.

Our subject is a Baptist and a Knight Templar.

From what we can hear, his many friends will bring him out for the state senate from this district to succeed Mr. Seaber. He will make a strong race.

#### Kicked to Death by a Horse.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Welch near Pee Dee was saddened last Tuesday evening by the sudden death of their son, Oliver, aged about 23 years.

Oliver, with a number of other parties, had come to Keytesville that day for the purpose of hauling out some lumber to be used in the erection of a new Masonic hall at Pee Dee.

It fell to the lot of Oliver Welch to take out a load of shingles. On the return trip he fell off the wagon while going down a hill just beyond the

country home of Jos. H. Grisby about seven miles north of Keytesville. Oliver's falling frightened the team and they began to kick and run. The young man was kicked on the head with such force as to mash his skull almost to a pulp where the horses' feet came in contact with it. He was also injured internally by the wagon, which passed over his prostrate body. He was picked up by Andrew Weatherford and Ben Littler, two members of the party who had also come to Keytesville to get lumber for the Pee Dee Masonic hall, and conveyed him to the home of his parents some two miles distant.

Dr. J. R. Gaines of Pee Dee was sent for, but the patient's injuries were beyond the power of man to heal, and Oliver passed into the valley of the shadow of death between 11 and 12 o'clock Tuesday night.

Death is always sad, but is particularly so when its victim is snatched into eternity without a moment's warning.

Truly has the good book said: "In the midst of life we are in death."

The parents and other members of the family have had their heart-strings torn asunder by this, the worst of all afflictions that can befall the human race—the giving up of a near and dear one to the indiscriminating and unrelenting grim reaper. The *Courier* sincerely condoles with them in their bereavement.

The beloved son and brother's remains were interred at Welch graveyard yesterday afternoon in the presence of a large concourse of sympathizing neighbors, friends and relatives.

#### Accidentally Shot.

We learn from "Uncle Jim" Robinson of Clark township the particulars of a deplorable and shocking tragedy, which occurred on the Westville public school grounds last Friday at noon, the particulars of which are as follows:

George Ellis, a son of Wesley Ellis the Westville merchant, and Harvey Ellis, a son of John Ellis, a farmer living 1-4 miles southwest of Westville, are bosom friends and are both about 16 years of age. Although of the same name they are not related.

The Westville public school is taught by C. P. Cloyd, and George and Harvey Ellis are two of his pupils. Last Friday during the noon hour George and Harvey started on a run to an outhouse on the school grounds, but George reached the house first, and when Harvey came up George drew a 22-calibre revolver from his pocket to "snap" the weapon at his schoolmate, supposing that the two loaded chambers that were in the revolver were on the lower side of the cylinder, but alas! when the trigger was pulled an explosion followed and a leaden ball crashed through Harvey Ellis' skull about four inches above the right ear and an inch or more out of line above the ear in the direction of the forehead. Seeing what he had done George Ellis' grief can better be imagined than described.

Dr. C. O. West, the village physician, was hastily summoned, and the unfortunate young man was conveyed to his home in a sled by John Robinson, who was accompanied by Dr. West and other sympathizing neighbors and friends.

Friday night about 8 o'clock Drs. West, Knott and Putnam trephined the skull and removed the shattered pieces of bone, but failed to locate the ball which they say ranged downward, and give it as their opinion that it lodged back of the right eye, which is very much swollen and paralyzed to such an extent that Harvey cannot open it.

His condition is very precarious, and his recovery would be considered almost a miracle. He is in good hands, however, and everything is being done for him that medical skill can do.

The said affair is greatly deplored by everyone in the community, but by no one is it regretted more than by George Ellis, who is doing everything in his power to restore his beloved schoolmate to his wonted vivacity and congeniality.

George, we trust, has learned a lesson he will never forget, and that henceforth he will never again be found guilty of that most despicable of all contemptible petty offenses—carrying concealed weapons.

#### The Criminal Calendar.

Prosecuting Attorney Collet will go to Salisbury next Tuesday to prosecute a case of the state against Wm. Young for felonious assault on John Creigler. Young slashed at Mr. Creigler with a butcher knife and cut a rather "vicious-looking" slit in his overcoat. Young will be tried in Justice T. A. LaGrass' court.

James Holt, a 13-year-old boy of near Westville, was lodged in the county jail last Saturday to serve out a fine of \$1 and trimmings imposed in Justice J. T. Robinson's court in Clark township for disturbing the peace of Mrs. Catherine Bramer the 13th of last June. Holt was fined some time since, but as he had failed to liquidate his fine and costs he was finally lodged in jail. He ought to have been spanked and put to bed instead of being sent to jail.

Prosecuting Attorney J. A. Collet received a letter the first of this week from Justice Chas. Binks of Chariton township stating that George Hatcher had pleaded guilty before him to assaulting Wm. Konecke. Mr. Binks said that he had investigated the case and found it to be about six of one and a half dozen of the other, and he asked the prosecuting attorney's advice as to what he (the justice) should do in the premises. Mr. Collet informed him that as Hatcher had pleaded guilty, to fine him, and we suppose that Hatcher has, 'ere this, been called upon to contribute to the state's exchequer.

James and Chas. McCormick, father and son, who assaulted Wm. Foster on the elder McCormick's farm northeast of Sumner several weeks ago, were tried by a jury in Justice T. J. L. Hutcheson's court at Rothville last Tuesday, (they having taken a change of venue from Justice Lewis' court at Sumner). The case was hotly contested from start to finish by the opposing counsel, Prosecuting Attorney J. A. Collet appearing for the state and C. C. Bigger of Laclade and L. N. Dempsey of Keytesville for the defendants. The jury after hearing the testimony and the sparring and spouting of the attorneys pro and con, returned a verdict of guilty, and assessed the fine of each of the defendants at \$1 and trimmings. They paid, put up and were discharged.

Robt. Coy, the Clark township young man whose arrest and incarceration in jail for knocking James Kelley on the head with a shotgun at the Cox-Fuller charivari near Mike two weeks ago last Wednesday night, as was mentioned in the *Courier* last week, gave bond in the sum of \$800 last Monday with his father, J. W. Coy, and brother-in-law, A. M. Penrod, as securities, to appear before the grand jury. Young Coy was also bound over the same day in the sum of \$100, giving the same security, to appear for trial at the next April term of circuit court for carrying concealed weapons, he having been indicted by the grand jury at the last October term upon that charge.

A stranger, giving his name as A. L. Palmer and claiming to hail from Boonville, Cooper county, slipped a curry-comb, a horse brush and a center piece to a neck-yoke into his pocket while in Chapman Bros.

harness and shoe store at this place last Monday morning. Gus Herman, the harness-maker employed by Chapman Bros., thought he noticed suspicious movements on the part of the stranger, and notified C. A. Chapman, the junior member of the firm. The fellow in the mean time had left the store, and was followed by C. A. Chapman who overhauled him near T. P. Wood's livery stable, and made him give up the curry-comb. One or perhaps both of the other articles were not missed until a short time afterward, but as soon as they were found to be non-est City Marshal L. A. Embree was notified and at once started in pursuit. Palmer was overtaken by the marshal about two miles east of town, and when the thief saw Embree coming he threw the horse brush and center piece to the neck-yoke out into the weeds by the roadside where they were subsequently recovered by Embree and returned to their owners. Palmer was placed under arrest and when taken before Justice J. M. DeMoss he pleaded guilty to petit larceny and was fined \$5 and costs, amounting, in all, to about \$15. Palmer, while long on petit thieving, was short on cash, and was sent to the county jail to serve out his fine and costs. He is 49 years of age and was well dressed. It is quite probable that he committed the theft in order that he might break into jail, and thus avoid the icy breath of Old Boreas for a short time, at least. How Missouri does need a whipping post for just such cases as Palmer's!

It will be remembered by the readers of the *Courier* that G. B. Hurt, a farmer living near Shannondale, had 1,000 pounds of wool stolen from the loft of a large barn on the night of the 21st of last June. A short time afterwards it was learned that the wool had been sold to I. Weisberg & Co., of Moberly. Further investigation of the matter led to the arrest of Burl Jones at Marshall, Saline county. Jones had been in the employ of different farmers of this vicinity, but had blossomed into an expert sheep shearer and was the young man who sheared Mr. Hurt's flock of sheep last June. The stolen wool was hauled to Moberly by means of a team and spring wagon that had been hired from S. B. Elliott, a Salisbury liveryman. Jones, however, did not hire the team nor did he sell the wool after it was taken to Moberly, hence there has never been any room to doubt his having had an accomplice, but as to who that accomplice was has been a problem that has been puzzling Prosecuting Attorney Collet and Mr. Hurt ever since the theft of the wool occurred. Ed. Miller, I. Weisberg & Co.'s clerk who bought the wool, and had somewhere recently run across G. W. Rutledge, a liveryman at Dalton, gave it as his opinion that Rutledge was the man who delivered the wool at I. Weisberg & Co.'s establishment, and yesterday John Moseley, an employe of S. B. Elliott's livery stable at Salisbury, who hitched up the team and spring wagon with which the wool was conveyed to Moberly, positively identified Rutledge as the man who had called at Mr. Elliott's stable and hired the rig the same night the wool was stolen and taken to Moberly. Upon being acquainted with Moseley's identification of Rutledge in addition to Miller's belief that Rutledge was the man who had sold the wool, Prosecuting Attorney Collet ordered Deputy Sheriff L. A. Embree to arrest Rutledge, which was done. It is not our desire to do Mr. Rutledge any injustice and we refrain from any further comments until after his preliminary trial which probably take place before Justice J. M. DeMoss to-day (Friday). Rutledge has a wife and several children.

**Mistletoe and ONE OF OUR HATS**



Are the best things to stand under. Price 50c to \$3.50.

Next week we commence our Annual Mid-winter Reduction Sale, Reduced prices in all lines of Men's Wearing Apparel.

**HERBERT WHITE,**  
Fashionable Men's Furnishings,  
KEYTESVILLE, MO.

**Wedding Bells.**  
MASON-SIMMONS.—B. A. Mason, a clever young farmer of near Salisbury, and Miss Mary Simmons were married at the residence of the bridegroom's brother, "Pet" Mason, near Salisbury, Thursday evening, Dec. 23d, Rev. J. P. Rice of Salisbury launching their hymeneal bark. The *Courier* hopes for the happy pair *bon voyage* upon the sea of matrimony. The bridegroom is a brother to Deputy Recorder J. M. Mason, but is much better looking.

**HOLCOMB-HYDE.**—M. H. Holcomb, Jr., and Miss Annie Hyde, the estimable daughter of L. D. Hyde of just north of Keytesville, were united in marriage at the residence of the bride's father Wednesday evening, Dec. 22nd, Rev. H. H. Hulten pronouncing the marriage ceremony in his usual pleasing and felicitous manner. The nuptials were of a quiet, unpretentious nature, being simply a sensible home wedding. The groom is connected with his father's, M. H. Holcomb's, lumber yard and hardware establishment at this place, and is a young man of good business qualifications. The bride is a young lady of an amiable disposition, and is also possessed of those domestic traits which will make her invaluable as a wife and helpmeet. A beautiful cottage home had been previously prepared by the bridegroom in Kellogg addition, in which they have set up to house-keeping. The *Courier* cordially joins their well-wishers, and hopes for them a long life of happiness and usefulness.

**HAYES-HURT.**—Heber L. Hayes, the popular and efficient cashier of the Salisbury Savings bank, and Miss Lula M. Hurt, one of the Forks 'of Chariton's most deserving and winsome young ladies, were married at New Hope Baptist church, seven miles southeast of Keytesville, Thursday evening, Dec. 23rd, Rev. H. H. Hulten performing the marital rites which united the future lines of the worthy young couple, who were attended at the altar by Martin Hurt, a brother of the bride, and Miss Blanche, a sister of the bridegroom; R. L. Hamilton and Miss Ella Erickson, and Fred Hayes, a brother of the bridegroom, and Miss Daisy Johnson. The invitations extended were general, and the

church was filled with friends and relatives of the bride and bridegroom, nearly all of whom had known them from their infancy, both having been born and reared in the community in which the contracting pair had lived, loved and married. Mr. and Mrs. Hayes will keep house in the Jos. Allin property in Salisbury, and where the *Courier's* benediction upon the union knocks for admission.

**Kenneth A. Shaw in Trouble.**  
Kenneth A. Shaw, a young man who formerly lived near Westville, but who moved to Chillicothe with his parents and other members of the Shaw family something over a year ago, and has been attending the Normal school there, is in the toils. The Chillicothe *Constitution* gives the following account of how and when young Shaw landed in the meshes of the law:  
"Kenneth A. Shaw, a normal student, was arrested by Constable Blackwell on two state warrants charging him with assault and carrying concealed weapons. The prosecuting witness is E. F. Wieland, another normal student. Young Shaw gave bond for his appearance for trial before Judge Barkley.

"The charges against Shaw are serious ones, but it is said that in consideration of his poor health and extremely nervous temperament the court will be lenient with him. The alleged assault on Wieland is said to have occurred at Shaw's home on Dec. 4th. In his preliminary hearing before Judge Barkley the charges of assault and of carrying concealed weapons were not connected, but it is supposed Shaw assaulted Wieland with the weapon. Shaw claims he is innocent and can clear himself of the charges.

"From reliable sources it is learned that Shaw is of a very excitable nature and that he often has been made the victim of practical jokes. Other students, it is said, have imposed upon Shaw, and his arrest is said to have been the outcome of some trifling trouble between them."

**Marriage Licenses.**

Victor Culberson	Silver City, N. M.
Miss Mary Agee	Brunswick
N. L. Miller	Glasgow
Miss Kate B. Walkup	Armsstrong
H. L. Hayes	Salisbury
Miss Lula M. Hurt	Shannondale
M. H. Holcomb, Jr.	Keytesville
Miss Anna B. Hyde	Salisbury
B. S. Mason	Salisbury
Miss Mary Simmons	Salisbury
S. T. Sears	Prairie Hill
Miss Etta Thomas	" "
Samuel Houston, col.	" "
Miss Kate Dameron, col.	" "
Grant Winn, col.	Namrask
Miss Lottie Withers, col.	" "