

One year.....	\$ 1.00
Six months.....	.50
Three months.....	.25

PERSONAL.

John C Dunbar of Dalzell Sumter county was in town last week.

Mr. D. D. Mc Coll, Sr. spent several days in Columbia last week.

C C Dunn, the operator for the Western union, visited his parents at Marvin, N. C. recently.

Mrs A D Rogers has been spending several days with her mother at Maxton.

The county road force is hauling gravel from west of town to the Blenheim road.

L C McArthur, of Parkton, visited at the home of Mrs. T C Weatherly recently.

Mr Geo. A. Britow leaves Feb 1st to take charge of the Crescent Cafe and Womens Exchange in Atlanta.

T B McLaurin is tearing down the old Cook house and will build a handsome residence where the house now stands.

Mr. and Mrs. G A Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller were received into the Presbyterian church Sunday morning.

Tom D Pate and his bride have moved to his mothers plantation north of town, where Mr Pate will engage in farming this year.

H W Carroll attended the meeting of the State Optical Association in Columbia last week and was elected treasurer of the association.

Clyde Adams, who has had pneumonia at the Adams house, was able to be taken to the home of his father, near Gibson, last week. He is still convalescing.

Misses Lyl Crosland, May and Coline Weatherly, and Messrs. R N Sampson, Frank Moore, Jim, Eugene Zannie Weatherly attended a play in Darlington last week.

Rev. E. P. Easterling, the financial agent of Furman University, has been spending several days here, canvassing for that institution. He has received pledges for about \$1200 in Bennettsville.

A J Johns has moved the two cottages which he bought from A J Matheson, in "Yellow Row," on Crosland street, and is building a two story house there. One of the cottages will be used as a kitchen and dining room for the new house, and the other has been moved across the street and is being enlarged.

Dr C G Vardell, the president, and Miss Anderson, the lady principal, of the Southern Presbyterian College and Conservatory of Music at Red Springs, were in Bennettsville last week to see Miss Lena Jordan, who is still very ill at the home of her sister, Mrs. Sadie Weatherly. Miss Jordan was formerly bookkeeper and stenographer for the college.

Miss Sallie Carlisle who returned to Mullins a few days ago to resume her position as music teacher in the graded school, found that her health would not permit the work, and she returned home Monday night. She has not recovered fully from the burn which she got at Mullins before Christmas. Her sister, Miss Annie, went to Mullins to come home with her.

Killing in Marion County.

Chio, Jan 23.—Mrs. D W Pate and daughter, Miss Lena, spent Monday in Bennettsville visiting Mrs. Pates Daughter, Mrs. Albarty. Mrs. Pate is just out from an attack of grip.

In an effort to kill John Pate near Judson in Marion county on Saturday, Thad McGill shot and killed his father, Gilbert McGill. McGill and Pate had been in bad humor and in the moonshine Pate dodged the shot intended for him with the above result.

The trial of Harry K Thaw is approaching an end. It is said that he will either have to hang or go to a madhouse.

\$150,000 FIRE HERE

Greatest Loss in History of the Town

Last Friday morning Bennettsville had the most disastrous fire in its history. The Skyo hotel and the entire block of stores east of the hotel, Dr W J Crosland's and Mrs. Frank Crosland's office buildings were destroyed.

Not only this, but four residences on Parsonage street were consumed, by catching from sparks blown from the hotel. The people of the town were powerless to stop the progress of the flames. The hand fire engine did not get into action till about two hours after the fire started, and then the available supply of water soon gave out. Everybody had to stand helpless and see the handsome business houses and residences go up in smoke.

The fire started about five o'clock in the Skye hotel building, at or near the rooms of the music school. The opinion of those who first discovered the fire is divided as to whether it started in the music room, or in a vacant room in the hotel, adjoining the music room. It seems to be generally conceded that it started up stairs, about the division between the sleeping apartments and the music rooms or the auditorium.

When Mr. Jones discovered the smoke and fire, he found it hard to awake the rest of the inmates. It was a bitter cold morning, and at an hour when most people were soundly asleep.

MR. HECKART HURT.

Among those who were sleeping in the hotel was J. J. Heckart, president of the B and C railroad and manager of the Scott Lumber Company. His room was in the rear of the hotel, opposite where the fire started. When he tried to get out, he found the hallway afire so that he could not reach the stairway. He went to the window to look for a means of escape. Dan E Odom, who was rooming in the Exum building, adjoining the hotel, learned of Mr. Heckart's predicament and threw a bed from his window under Mr. Heckart's window. Mr. Heckart jumped out on the bed but in doing so he fractured a bone in his leg, near the ankle, and was otherwise bruised. He was taken to the office of Dr. Kinney for treatment.

Several escaped very scantily clad, among them Mrs. Jones, the wife of the proprietor of the hotel. G. P. Bourdelat, traffic manager of the B and C railroad, also had a narrow escape. He climbed down a telephone pole and was out on the cold ground barefooted, assisting Mr. Heckart and trying to save property.

The hotel building was soon in a blaze, with a stiff wind blowing from the north-west, carrying sparks and burning cinders all over the south-eastern part of town. For awhile fire was falling like hail from the hotel to the Coast Line railroad.

RESIDENCES FIRED.

One of these cinders set fire to the roof of the residence of the late A. J. Britow, occupied by Pierce Britow and his sisters, Misses Florence and Fannie, at the corner of Fayetteville avenue and Parsonage street, about a quarter of a mile from the hotel. The fire was seen by a number of people when it was the size of a man's hand, but they were powerless to extinguish it. Not even a ladder could be found to reach to the top of the two-story building. The roof burned slowly for awhile, but soon the whole building was on fire and burned to the ground.

While the Bristow home was burning, Judge Hudson's residence on Parsonage street caught in the same manner and was also destroyed. From Judge Hudson's E M Rowe's house caught, and from Mr Rowe's, Claude T Moore's, All of them were burned down. Capt P L Medlin, also caught, but by heroic efforts was saved.

NO FIRE PROTECTION

In the mean time, the fire from

the hotel had swept down the block, consuming the three stores of C E Exum, occupied by Sol Brown, E L Hamilton and R D Rogers and Bro. and the store of E D Moore, occupied by the Excelsior Hardware Co. The fire engine had not yet arrived, and it seemed that the whole block would be burned, and that the flames would sweep from Fuller's stables to the residences to the east.

About this time the engine was got to work, and began to throw water on Mrs Frank Crosland's office building. A bucket brigade was also formed, under the direction of Mayor Breeden, and carried water upon the building. The water soon gave out, however, and all efforts to save Dr. Crosland's and Mrs Frank Crosland's buildings were futile.

The fire halted at the wall between the buildings of Mrs. Crosland and Dr. Townsend, and by the heroic efforts of George Hinson, E C Morrison, W P Breeden, Jr., and others, the building was saved from the fire, although it was badly damaged by water and the roof being torn off to get to the interior. This was the last brick building in the row, and had it burnt, it would have been impossible to save Baldwin's market and Fuller's warehouse and stables.

The stores under the hotel which were burned were the Marlboro Drug Co., S. J. Pearson and Mercer, Rouse and Bostic, also the offices of the Scott Lumber Co.

THE LOSSES

The largest loss falls on A. J. Matheson, the owner of the Skye hotel and all the stores and offices under it except S J Pearson's. Mr. Matheson says the building cost him about \$21,000 and he had about \$2,500 worth of furniture in it. He had \$10,000 insurance.

C E Exum valued his buildings at \$16,000. He had \$10,500 insurance. He also lost about \$290 in his office.

E D Moore's building was worth about \$5,000 and he had \$4,000 insurance.

S J Pearson valued his building at \$1,000 and had only \$1,400 insurance. He had a \$3,000 stock which was insured for only \$1,000, he saved some of his valuable jewelry and watches.

The Marlboro Drug Co., had a \$14,000 stock, with \$9,000 insurance.

Sol Brown had a \$7,000 stock of furniture insured for \$3,500.

E L Hamilton had \$1,500 insurance on \$6,500 worth of groceries.

R D Rogers & Bro. had their \$5,000 stock of groceries insured for \$3,500.

Mrs. Frank Crosland's building, valued at \$1,300 was insured for \$850.

Mercer, Rouse and Bostic's loss was about \$2,000, with \$1,600 insurance.

Eason Brothers had \$1,750 insurance on their book store. They saved very little of their \$2,800 stock.

E C Morrison, electrician, and auto dealer had \$700 insurance. He got his automobiles and most of his other stuff out, but there was considerable damage from moving.

Col Knox Livingston valued his office fixtures and library at \$3000. He had only \$500 insurance.

The Excelsior Hardware Co. had about \$10,000 stock, with \$6,000 insurance.

Dr H E Stockton had \$500 insurance on \$1,200 worth of dental tools and fixtures.

The Twentieth Century Club library was valued at \$1,200, with \$700 insurance.

The Bennettsville Club had \$1,500 insurance on \$2,500 worth of furniture and fixtures.

Jones and Powell, proprietors of the Skye hotel, lost about \$1500 worth of furniture and had no insurance. Mr. Jones and family also lost all their clothing and other personal property and over \$100 in cash.

J E Spencer, photographer, estimates his loss at \$1,500, with \$500 insurance.

Mrs W C Carlisle and Miss Hallie Lytch lost two pianos and

a lot of furniture, music, etc., valued at \$600. They had \$337.50 insurance.

Dr. W J Crosland's office building was worth \$1500 or more, insured for about \$1000.

The Scott Lumber Co., had a small loss from moving.

J W Smith, who had his insurance office in the Exum building, lost some valuable papers.

R B Crosland, Dr. R L Spencer, Dr. O A Matthews, J M Brasington and others, who roomed in the Exum annex, sustained losses.

Mr. Brasington lost all his patents, a lot of valuable papers, family mementoes, and over \$150 in cash which he had in his room for the purpose of taking a trip to the west.

W R Crosland, who lived with Judge Hudson, lost nearly all his furniture, partly insured.

C B Crosland & Co., estimate their loss at \$2,000 from moving stock and breaking of glass and other damage to building, covered by insurance.

J. T. Douglas plate glass front was broken and his loss is over \$100, covered by insurance.

The McCall-Weatherly Co. was damaged about \$50.

W J Baldwin and H B Fuller were each damaged \$100 or more from moving and scattering goods. The Bell Telephone Co., was damaged \$500 by poles and wires being burnt down and tangled.

It will cost the town of Bennettsville about \$100 to repair its electric light wires and poles.

W A Atkins and E V Richards were each damaged some by moving.

Dr A S Townsend's loss is about \$500, covered by insurance.

Judge Hudson's residence and furniture were worth about \$8000. He had \$4,200 insurance.

CT Moore had only \$1,000 insurance on his residence and furniture, and his loss is over \$2,500.

E M Rowe also lost \$2,500 or more. He had \$1500 insurance.

The Bristow residence was valued at \$4,500 and was insured for \$2,250.

Townsend and Rogers estimate their loss at \$300, covered by insurance.

Others damaged to some extent by moving and water are J T Medlin, Judge Townsend, Sol Brown, W S Rowe, W R Crosland and H B Freeman. The total loss is estimated at \$150,000.

INCIDENTS OF THE FIRE.

While the fire was in progress, Mr. Matheson was asked if he had any insurance on the hotel. He laughed and said, "Yes, a little. This is the only building I ever insured. I always trusted in the old Master to take care of what I had, but I lost faith in him and allowed Warren to persuade me into insuring the hotel, and now it has burned."

Most of the inmates of the hotel escaped by the stairway opening to Darlington street, but it is said that Miss Johnson, the stenographer for the Scott Lumber Co., ran down the stairway into the lobby while the stairway was in a blaze.

Some canaries were kept in the front window of the Scott Lumber Co.'s office. While the house was on fire, somebody got a stick and broke out the glass, allowing the birds to escape.

Mr. Jones was so excited, trying to get his family and guests out of the building, that he got the wrong vest from his room and left one which had about \$130 in cash in the pocket.

Mr. Jones says he always knew that there were good people in Bennettsville, but he never realized the extent of their kindness till their attentions to himself and family during and since the fire.

It is said that one commercial traveler ran out of the hotel in his night clothes and did not stop running till he ran into a room at the Marlboro hotel. Another grabbed his clothes and ran in the lobby of C B Crosland's store. Others pulled on some of their clothes as they went. Many left part of their wearing apparel.

After the fire had practically

swept out the entire brick block and had caught in the ceiling of Dr. Townsend's office building, next to the unsightly old wooden structures occupied by W J Baldwin and H B Fuller, there was a general disposition to let the old stables go. Henry B. Freeman, however, realized that the burning of the stables would endanger the residences in all the eastern part of the town, as the wind was blowing that way. He said that the fire must be stopped if possible. He offered five dollars to anybody who would stop it. Mayor Breeden was standing by and said he would make it ten. George Hinson accepted the proposition and worked about an hour, with the assistance of several others, and by cutting through the roof extinguished the fire and stopped it there. Mr Hinson had already done heroic work in saving some residences.

While the homes of E. M. Rowe and C T Moore were burning the hand fire engine arrived on Parsonage street and did effective work in saving the residence of J T Medlin. It was too hot to stand on the building next to Mr Moore's but the hose was run through the front door and Howard Bounds stood at a window, holding the nozzle out and throwing the water up on the end of the building. Some one stood on the outside and gave directions where the water should be thrown. The building was badly scorched and could not have been saved without the fire engine. Mr Medlin and family were away from home,—at Wilmington, where Mrs Medlin's mother was dying at the time the fire was in progress.

The signboard which hung in front of the Marlboro Drug Co. was not burned and was left hanging in good condition. The wind kept the fire blown away from it.

Those who were in the hotel who first saw the fire say that in room No 30, next to the auditorium when Mr Jones and Mr Bourdelat opened the door of that room, it was blazing up in one corner. Mr Bourdelat ran and got a hose and attempted to turn on the water, but the hose would not work. He ran and got another and turned on the water but by that time it had made such progress that he could not do anything with it. He then started into his own room, next to No 30, but it was ablaze, and he could not get his clothes. He then went into Mr Heckart's room and wake him up. He then ran out to the front and escaped by going down a telephone pole.

Mr Heckart waited to put on his pants and shoes, which did not take more than a minute. When he pushed his door open to get out, the fire singed his mustache and hair. He started to push open the screen door, on the outside, and the wire was so hot that it left its imprint on his fingers. The only means of escape was through the window. He looked in the closet for a rope to let himself down by, but never once thought of taking a bed sheet.

He got in the window, and a bed was thrown under it for him. By that time the fire had burnt through the transom and filled the room. The smoke was so thick he could not see the bed or the ground. He let himself down from the window and dropped. He struck a slanting roof over the stairway into the cellar, and the small bone in his leg, a few inches above the ankle, was broken.

Mr Heckart could hardly breathe for the smoke, but he was taken out and he managed to hobble around to his office and open the door, not knowing that his leg was broken. He then sat out on the street in a chair for about two hours, till the excitement began to subside, when Drs Crosland and Kinney examined him and set the broken bone.

Mr Heckart is at Dr Crosland's and his leg will have to remain in splints for about six weeks. He says he deeply appreciates the many kindnesses that the people of Bennettsville have shown him in his affliction.

While the hotel block was burn-

ing, cinders and sparks fell over the premises of Drs Crosland and Kinney. There was a pile of pine straw in Dr Crosland's lot, and it was at times nearly covered with burning cinders, but it did not catch at all, although roofs of houses were fired a quarter of a mile away.

While Judge Hudson was carrying out his beaver, in a band box, he stumbled and fell, but was not seriously hurt. The judge especially regrets the loss of the handsome trees that surrounded his home.

Receiver's Sale.

State of South Carolina, Marlboro County.

In Common Pleas.

A. J. Matheson suing on behalf of himself and other stockholders and creditors of the Marlboro Fruit Company, Plaintiff

vs.

The Marlboro Fruit Company, Defendant

NOTICE.

Pursuant to an order of Court of his Honor R. C. Watts, dated January 14th, 1908, I will offer for sale at the Court house door in Marlboro county, on the first Monday in February within the legal hours of sale; all that piece or pieces of land belonging to the Marlboro Fruit Company, containing six hundred and ten acres, more or less, being all the land owned and possessed by the said Marlboro Fruit Company, and are situate in the Northwestern part of the County near Osborn, and are the tracts bought from D. D. McColl, Toney Elterbe, Z. T. Pearson, Adeline Stubbs, Martha Ann Steen and others. Also at the same time and place I will sell all the farming implements, tools stock and supplies of the said Marlboro Fruit Company of every kind and description owned by the said Marlboro Fruit Company, consisting in part of five mules, two two horse wagons, one spraying machine, and merchandise to the value of about eight hundred dollars, and the usual plantation implements.

Terms of sale, one-third cash, balance in two equal installments at one and two years time to be secured by bond of purchaser, and by mortgage of the premises, and to bear interest at seven per cent, with privilege to the purchaser of paying all cash. Purchaser to pay for all necessary papers. 3-7 Warren Moore, Receiver.

BENNETTSVILLE Marble Works.



Orders for MONUMENTS or TOMBS FOR SALE. Call on me, at my place of business near the Atlantic Coast Line and the Seaboard Air Line Passenger Depots, or write me. Designs and Prices furnished on application. Phone No. 95.

J. W. McELWEE.

January 25, 1906

VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE

I have for immediate sale a fine farm containing 300 acres, situated about one mile from the corporate limits of the town of Lumberton. 100 acres of this land is cleared and is in a high state of cultivation. There are two good frame tenant houses and other out houses on the same. Parties wishing to buy a good farm will find this a great bargain.

For further information apply to A. W. McLEAN, Lumberton, N. C.

Dec 6th 1907.

FARM FOR SALE.

84 1/2 Acres in 71st Township, Cumberland county, N. C., 5 miles from Raeford, 4 miles from A. & R. Railroad. 100 acres cleared. Fine location for a Shingle mill. Can be made a valuable farm. Will sell it in one tract or divide it to suit purchaser. Terms, two thirds cash, balance in 12 months. J. T. BOSTICK, Dec. 20, '07 Red Springs, N. C.

LAND FOR SALE.

87 3-10 Acres six miles north east of Red Springs and 1 1/2 miles from main line of A Coast Line Railroad. Twenty acres cleared. Timber and wood will pay the expense of clearing. Price \$2,000. Terms Cash. J. T. BOSTICK, Dec. 20, 1907. Red Springs, N. C.