

SHERIFF EDWARDS OF GREENE.

Writes a Letter Censuring The Free Press.

SNOW HILL, Feb. 20, 1899.
EDITOR KINSTON FREE PRESS,
MY DEAR SIR:—In your issue of last Wednesday's Free Press you make some statements in regard to our county matters that reflect upon me, and I simply ask that you set me right before the public by publishing this letter, and in the future keep your hands off, or get the facts before you publish damaging reports about your party friends.

1st. You state, that on "Friday when Mr. Dixon, fusion sheriff, went to Goldsboro, Mr. B. W. Edwards, Democratic sheriff, with about ten men broke into the jail and took possession." Now this statement is calculated to make people think that we have two sheriffs in Greene county, when in fact we have but one, and I have the honor of being that one; and I hold it under the election law framed, passed and ratified by the fusion legislature. Under this law Judge Robinson, whose Republicanism has never been questioned, inquired into the matter, ordered a recount and all interested parties were present in person or by representative at the recount; the returns were made to the judge in open court, who signed said report and delivered the same to the clerk of the court and ordered it to be filed. On that report Mr. Mitchell, fusion candidate for the legislature, lost his seat, and declared in the contest before the legislature that he was satisfied that he was not elected and would surrender to Hon. J. E. W. Sugg, our present representative.

Next in the report of the recount it was declared that B. W. Edwards was duly elected sheriff of Greene county.

Next, this same report of the recount declared that the Democratic candidates for county commissioners were elected, and this board ordered me to make a second demand upon ex-sheriff Dixon for the jail keys, which I did. Mr. Dixon refused to deliver the keys, whereupon the county commissioners ordered me to remove the locks from the jail doors, put on new locks and take possession, which order I obeyed.

The intimation that I did it in the absence of Mr. Dixon, because I was afraid to do it while he was in town, is but an emanation from the brain of a man who must have been, from some reason, afraid to give the facts in the case.

I took possession of the jail as the lawful keeper of it. I took possession of it in obedience to an order of the county commissioners, and had they ordered it done in the presence of every fusionist in Greene county, and every milk and cider Democrat in Lenoir county, I would have done so.

As to compelling "Mr. Murphy, the fusion register of deeds, who had his office in the jail, to get out," hardly requires notice, for any man with three grains of sense would hardly expect him to remain there. It is not the sheriff's or jailor's business to furnish an office for the register of deeds, and certainly not my business to furnish ex-Register of Deeds W. E. Murphy an office.

By the way Mr. Editor, who

told you that W. E. Murphy was register of deeds for Greene county? That recount ordered by Judge Robinson says that C. A. Lassiter is register of deeds, and he is in the office, with books, deeds, etc., recording papers and taking the fees, just the same.

J. R. Dail, the Democratic clerk of the court, is in his office, faithfully attending to his duties, and is recognized as clerk, even by the fusion contestants, who have taken out papers before him against some of our officers. These same fusionists brought their papers to "me" to serve as sheriff of the county.

Now, if J. R. Dail is clerk of the court, and these fusionists say so, and they say by their acts that I am sheriff, then every one of our officers are in to stay.

In conclusion, allow me to say that nearly three months has elapsed since we have been in, and it does seem if they could have ousted us, they would have done so before, but it may be they are waiting for another encouraging article like the one published by you some time ago by an unemployed lawyer, who must have been looking for a job. If the man who wrote that article had been a Democrat of the Grainger, Jackson or W. W. Carraway stripe, he would not have thus tried to aid, or in any other way, help to defeat a Democrat, who holds his office under the plain letter of the law.

Yours truly,
B. W. EDWARDS,
Sheriff of Greene County.

OVER THE COUNTRY.

Secretary Long, says he stands by the statement he sent to the Senate regarding the Sampson-Schley controversy.

Rear Admiral Dewey has informed the Navy Department that he has deposited 18,000 tons of coal at Cavite, Manila.

The big strike of shop molders at Holly, N. Y., has been settled, but the core-makers are still out.

The new four-masted steel ship Arthur Sewell was Saturday launched at the yards of her builders, Arthur Sewall & Co., Bath, Me.

J. G. Parry, of Denver, Col., was killed in the wreck of the Union Pacific flyer, near Cheyenne Wyo., and seven persons were injured.

An explosion of gas in the cellar of their home, at Wabash, Ind., fatally injured Mrs. Emilie Burns and her adopted daughter, Bessie Lane.

For murdering Mrs. Meyer and her daughter to obtain \$2,000, Samuel Rivers, George Hale and Edwin Johnson are to be hanged at Troy, Ala., on March 21.

JUST RECEIVED

—A Handsome Line of—

LADIES' WRITING DESKS, DESK AND CABINET COMBINED, BOOK CASES, CHINA CLOS-
ETS AND BABY CARRIAGES.

A COMPLETE LINE OF—



CHEAPEST AND BEST ON EARTH.

SAM WHITE.

AN OPEN LETTER.

To the Friends of the Dispensary Movement in Greenville.

The first battle has been fought and the victory for the present is with the anti-dispensary element. The object of this letter is to ask you to accept this result without unnecessary recrimination and bitterness. It is true that the wishes of a large majority of the best people of Greenville township have not been properly respected; it is true that morality was set aside in the interest of what was supposed to be party politics; it is true the influence of the bar-room was stronger than the influence of a majority of the white registered voters of the township; it is true that the fact of our having or not having a majority of the white registered voters asking for a dispensary did not seriously affect the decision of the Senate Committee. The way was virtually blocked up, and if we had known it, the effort to get a dispensary for Greenville was utterly hopeless from the beginning. No county, township or town can get a dispensary when their representatives are opposed to it, and that was just the unfortunate condition in which the friends of the dispensary for Greenville were placed. Let us concede that all who opposed the movement had a reason for so doing; and with this dismiss the whole thing, until the proper time comes to speak in tones that shall be heard and respected. And that time will surely come; the bar-rooms of North Carolina must eventually close their doors; the movement has begun and will not subside till from the mountains to the sea the State has been redeemed. N. M. WATSON.

JUST FOR FUN.

It isn't hard to make a fellow swallow his words when you ask him what he'll have to drink.

The real estate boomer is a good man to take along when you go out to paint the town; he can show you the sites.

The Tar River, now resembles a lazy man; rising all the time but never leaving the bed.

Algernon was quick to grasp the situation. However, this was not to be wondered at, as he had been without employment for several months.

They had a quarrel about her new hat. "Oh! that I were a bird," she moaned. "Owe that you wear a bird! Well, I guess not," he retorted, angrily; "I have had enough of going into debt for your finery."

CLOTHIER,
FURNISHER,
AND HATTER.



NO RUN-DOWN, TAG-END STOCKS,

Even at this time of year, at
FRANK WILSON'S
If you want a **SUIT** as low as \$3.00 we can fit you this week as well as any time. If you want an elegant **Overcoat** at \$4.00 come in. We've got just the kind you want. If your price limit is \$5.00, or \$7.50, or \$10.00, or \$15.00, we will give you an exceptionally good and substantial, as well as an absolutely stylish, garment—any size, pattern, cut, or model. We're not the right kind of Outfitters only sometimes—but always.



FRANK WILSON.
THE KING CLOTHIER

AT FIVE POINTS.

I have moved in the Cheap John store at Five Points and will move off the balance of my stock in three months if I have to almost give them away. The greatest bargains known are occurring at our store daily.

Come before they are all gone.

ALFRED FORBES

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We are in our new quarters and invite you to come and see us. We will continue to sell

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

at the lowest price possible. We can save you money.

J. C. COBB & SON

Our Prices

ARE THE LOWEST IN TOWN ON—

Dry Goods, Shoes, Hats, and Pants.

CALL AND SEE OUR NEW LINE OF—

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