

HIAWASSEE

There are several cases of measles in our midst. Mr. T. S. Ledford has a little boy very sick with them.

Mr. George and Taft Nelson and Mr. Taylor Linderman passed through our midst Sunday.

We are having plenty of rain in this section at present.

Mr. Semley is visiting his daughter, Mrs. J. W. Morgan, of Madisonville, Tenn.

We are very sorry to hear of Mr. Norman Runion dying a few days ago.

Mrs. Lillie Hamby's folks have the mumps.

Mr. S. C. Ledford is installing a Telephone in his home.

Mr. Mashburn is doing some nice sawing with his new saw mill.

Mr. Frank Deaver went over to Violet, N. C., to a school entertainment one night last week.

Mrs. Ada Burgess has moved to Englewood, Tenn., where she will work in the mills.

Mr. Ben Rose has moved to the Ada Burges place.

Miss Carrie Berrong and Eula Mae Berrong were visitors of Mrs. S. C. Ledford Sunday afternoon.

There will be a meeting at Pleasant Hill Saturday and Saturday night and Sunday. Everybody invited to attend.

Mrs. Laura Shearer has ordered a fine silvertone phonograph which she is well pleased with.

"The Old Familiar Face"

Andrews with the passing of Maria Young, colored, known to all this section as "Aunt Maria," the community sustains a great loss. Black and white alike will miss her. She occupied a unique place that no other can fill, and Valletown will never seem quite the same place again. In her humble little cabin she has extended as gracious a hospitality as any home in the land. She was a noted cook in her day, and when she and "Uncle Bob" lived further up the mountain road, many a belated traveler thanked his stars that fate let him to her door. In these days she always kept a bed for white folks, and the weary and way worn found, what he often failed to find in the cabins of the whites, clean sheets and new coverlets, and a never failing spirit of hospitality. You were welcome and you were honored.

In earlier days when itinerant lumber camps sampled the virgin forests, the men always tried to locate near Uncle Bob's cabin, knowing they could prevail on Aunt Maria to furnish their board. No home in the country was better stored with canned fruit, jellies and preserves, canned and dried vegetables and pepper and herbs for seasoning. She had no dairy, but with care and ingenuity, holes in the ground were boxed in and covered and the passerby was often regaled by a glass of cold buttermilk.

She was a shrewd judge of human nature, and had a contempt for the shiftless and idle, but even these were kindly treated. Uncle Bob's hounds as well as his pigs, were the fattest in the country, and their hens seemed never to go a strike, any neighbor in an emergency could get fresh eggs from Aunt Maria.

This is not a biographical sketch, only an appreciation, as I am too far away to obtain data from those who are better posted, and only remember she was born in East Tenn., and was probably upward of eighty when she died. Her early life was spent in Mississippi. The white people to whom she belonged used to take voyages up the Mississippi and Maria was taken along to tend and care for the children. These were happy days for the little darkey, and her keen observation and natural intelligence gave these journeys a permanent educational value, and many a visitor has been regaled by her pertinent stories of river travel.

Now she has crossed the river that separates time from eternity, her fine old spirit has found its permanent home. She and Uncle Bob were always hard working and thrifty, it is a commentary on the community, that profited by their labor and generosity, that they have so little to show for their toil. Uncle Bob is alone now and physically unfitted to "carry on" much longer unaided. What are we going to do about it?

Aunt Maria is survived by four children, forty-four grand children, 33 great grand children and two great great grand children.

MRS. DONALD WILSON.

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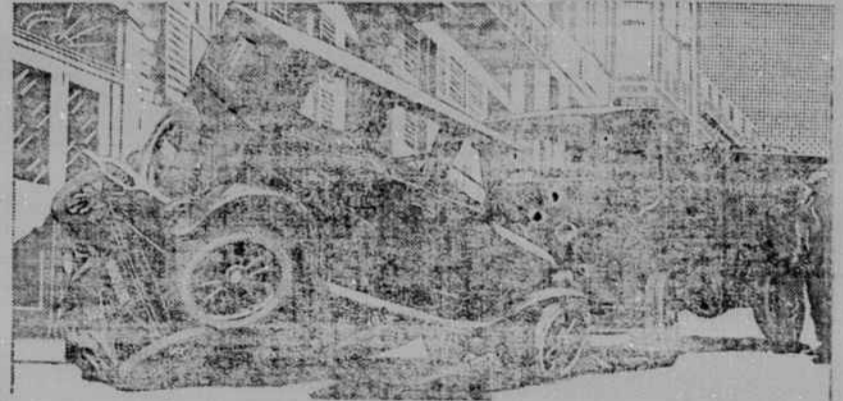
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