

"Old Farmer" Listens To Holler Of Cricket

What beautiful weather! I can get in a chair on my piazza 'bout the sunset hour and gaze at the tints in the western sky and just feast on the sublimity of nature. An October sunset is a gorgeous sight and from a boy till now I have always got the full of its glorious delight by standin' or sittin' in the open at the gloamin' hour and feel the thrill of nature. As I write, I think of the old song that I heard when a boy:

When the lights are dim and low."

"In the gloaming, O, my darling, If you've got any poetry in your anatomy, it will begin to bubble in you if you will git out and gaze at the sunset in these October days. Try it. Take your wife by her hand and stand out there and it will take you back over the years a-teemin'."

Several frosts have come and went since I write you my last piece and things has been movin' on wonderful like. We have been diggin' peanuts and pickin' cotton. Pickin' out cotton aint my job and aint never been. I am actually ashamed to tell the most that I ever picked in one day for it was so little compared to what the other fellows picked. I reckon my fingers warn't made to pick cotton and play the banjo. And one thing is dead shure, I am too old now to learn, if I could. Yes, Sir, when it comes to pickin' cotton, I surrender and run up the white flag of truce. Still my fingers appear to be as nimble as they were in the days of my boyhood.

I have been hearin' the jay birds holler for several days. He will let you know when the fall o' the year is 'approachin' if you will just go out in the woods. The whippoorwill has gone into winter quarters and won't come out till next spring. You will hardly hear him agin tho I 'bieve that I have now and then hear one break out'n season. But oh! Man, the dolorous cricket! Long in the late afternoon he will start up his racket and he'll make you feel so lonesome that the shivers will run up and down your spinal column. Did you ever come up to the house and find your wife and all the youngsters gone and just drop down on the front or back door steps and begin to ponder and think when all at once you'd hear that one cricket begin to set up his sound that I can't describe? Well, if you have then you know what lonesome feelin' he can put over you. Did you ever notice that only one hollers at a time? It must be that when one gits tired that the other takes his place. Git me away from the fall cricket. The shiverin' owl can git yer to thinkin' 'bout haunts and ghosts. But these here fellows that always been in a city don't know nuthin' 'bout sich things and the fact is they aint never got close to nature, which after all is the greatest study in life. I 'bieve that it was a feller named Pope that said:

"The proper study of mankind is man."

Well bein' that he had so much more sense than I's got of course I can't dispute it, but, while he is studin' man he might watch the birds, bugs and flowers, and that old crick-it is goin' to make you notice him some anyway, as well as the shiverin' owl. But I'll bet my ole hat that Henry Miller knows all 'bout insects and sich like. Don't year, Henry?

I read in the HERALD that "The Birth of a Nation," was goin' to be showed on the 25th, 26th and 27th nights in the Garrett Theatre and 'bieve me I's gwine and all the family for I've wanted to see that thing ever since I read it in Tom Dixon's book and then I lent it to all my nabor and all of us knows some 'bout that thing and the "Lepard Spots." The reason I aint see it before this time is because it was always showed in Norfolk or some other big place but now 'Hooskie is bigger nuff to give the folks a chance to see it at home. What have I been a-tellin' of you? Don't you see what we could have if we'd just make 'Hooskie what it's goin' to be and that is bigger'n Suffolk. Well when we git the courthouse and jail there you're going to see that place step along. It's goin' and don't you forget it.

I take off my ole slouch to John Parker, for writin' that last piece for the HERALD. He done just what I've been tryin' to git folks to do all 'long,—write some little sketches of boyhood days and things that will give the young folks a glimpse of the back yonder days. There oughter be at least two letters a week from different ones in Hertford and adjoin' counties in every issue of the HERALD. Don't be so cussed lazy, fellers, git down to it and scratch a few lines. It will be read with interest. John write a letter and tell the boys 'bout how you wore hame knit socks. Why I wore home knit socks jam by till I was married and after I married my old woman, she knit we a pair or so, but things got so that I begun to git store knit socks. I know just as good when my mother knit my socks

and when she would card the cotton into rolls and then spin it and then double the threads and twist and then wind it in a skein and wash it out and dry it and after supper she would hand the skein to me to hold over both hands while she would wind it off into a knittin' ball. I can see myself as the skein would begin to git down sorter thin I would shut my eyes so that I could not observe the slow process of windin till maybe the last thread was wound off. We boys wore brogan shoes in the winter time and went barefooted in the summer.

I remember,—it was in the fall of the yar a little later then it is now, possibly in November that my mother went to town to see 'bout some cotton that she had had hauled and to make some little fall purchases. The day was long for mammy was gone but we played and long in the even' near 'bout night, we began to look down the path that led to the big gate for it was gittin' time for her return and by and by we looked and behold she was near 'bout to the house and how we did run to meet her and as we met the vehicle it stopped and the lady that lived with my mother handed out a red top pair of boots to my younger brothers and callin' his name said there was a pair of boots for him and then out came another pair of red top boots and callin' my name she handed them to me, then calling my baby brother's name she handed him a blue top pair of boots. All of 'em was coppert toed. Was there ever as proud boys in the state? Yes, every boy who had a happy mother who delighted in making her children happy has had the same sweet experience and their minds dwell at times on those happy memories of boyhood. Yes, our young little hearts caused us a glorious jubilation. I know as I write these lines that it made my mother's heart gladder than it did ours to see us so happy, for I can pay her this humble tribute that, "She was one of the best mothers that ever lived," and perhaps her spirit is bending over me now in her angelic joy, as I write of the innocence of childhood.

But John, "Them days is gone forever."

OLD FARMER.

October 13, 1923.

HARRELLSVILLE NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Morris and little daughter, Doris, spent the weekend in Aulander visiting relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Rowe and children spent a few days last week visiting relatives in Aulander.

Mrs. H. I. Britton returned to her home in Norfolk last week after spending some time with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Askew.

Mr. Clyde Askew of Powellsville visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Askew last Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. L. T. Holloman, Misses Annie Laurie Sessoms and Miss Nell Deans attended the Lyceum course in Winton Tuesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Pembroke Baker of Suffolk were visitors in town last Wednesday.

Messrs. S. E. Harrell and L. T. Holloman were business visitors in Ahoskie Wednesday.

Mrs. J. L. Smith and daughters, Elizabeth and Evelyn, Mrs. Rena Holloman, Mrs. C. M. Callis and daughter, Ethel, were in Colerain Friday, shopping.

Mrs. J. A. Powell spent Friday in Suffolk, shopping.

Mrs. R. C. Mason and little daughter, Pauline, are spending two weeks visiting relatives in Edenton and Columbia, N. C.

Messdames H. H. Taylor, W. B. Gilliam, and Hunter Sharp were in Ahoskie Thursday.

Capt. Oscar Crosswell of Baltimore is in town a few days on business.

Mr. E. M. Wooten of Ahoskie spent Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Powell.

Mr. C. F. Peele and Mr. W. T. Holloman of near Hickory Chapel called on Mr. James Cotton Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Joanna White, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Perry and daughter, Viola Claire and Miss Anna Laura Baker of Powellsville were callers in the home of Mrs. White's niece, Mrs. Mae Lowe Sunday.

Mr. D. N. Evans spent Monday in Wilson on business.

Mrs. Lucy Holloman and son, L. T. Holloman spent Sunday in Mapleton in the home of Mr. L. H. Holloman.

State Mission Day was observed in the Baptist Sunday School here Sunday morning.

Messdames H. H. Taylor and D. N. Evans are spending a few days in Norfolk this week.

We are glad to report that Elsie and Ruth Taylor, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Taylor, are better after being confined to their home with diphtheria and will soon be able to return to school.

Miss Bessie Sumner of Evanston was a visitor in town Monday afternoon.

The people of Harrellsville and vicinity are planning a Community Fair to be held at the Harrellsville School building all day Saturday, October 20. Dinner will be sold in the building. The programs for the day will be in charge of the Betterment Society of Harrellsville and Christian Harbor. All visitors will be welcome.

BETHLEHEM NEWS

Mr. Broadus Adkins has purchased a new Ford runabout.

Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Hill and children spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Godwin near Hickory Chapel.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Gower and children visited near Montgomerys Mill Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Broadus Adkins was a visitor in Gatesville Sunday.

Messrs. R. L. Wiggins and Joe Chamblee and Mesdames Wiggins and Chamblee and Miss Ruby Wiggins were visitors of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Wiggins Sunday afternoon.

Messrs. Troy Hill, Robert Thomas and Joe Vann were callers in the home of Mrs. Rosa Hill near Harrellsville Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Greene visited Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dilday near Montgomerys Mill on Sunday afternoon.

We are glad to report Mr. J. N. Wiggins and Mrs. R. L. Simons and Miss Ercell Simons much improved from their recent illness.

Those who attended the "tacky" party in the home of Mr. W. H. Thomas near Tunis last Wednesday evening were, Misses Ruth Thomas, Rosa Lee Slaughter, Susie Hill and Jessie Vann and Messrs. Robert Thomas, Clyde Slaughter, Troy Hill, Joe Vann, and Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Slaughter and family from Hickory Chapel and Mr. Russell Slaughter and family from Ahoskie, spent Sunday afternoon with their mother, Mrs. Mollie Slaughter.

The weather continues fine for peanut digging and cotton picking, but at the same time garden and potato crops are suffering for rain.

Plant some nitrogen-gathering legumes for soil improvement and livestock pasturage.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of the late Ella E. Reynolds, of Hertford County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons holding claims against the said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 8th day of October, 1924, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 8th day of October, 1923.

ANDREW J. REYNOLDS,
10-12-23-6t. Administrator.
By Thad A. Eure, Attorney.

Notice of Sale Under Mortgage

By virtue of the power and authority given by a certain Mortgage executed by Jno. Futrell and wife, Eva Futrell, to S. P. Taylor, which is recorded in the office of the Register of deeds for the County of Hertford, in book 54, page 405, the following property will be sold at public auction, viz:

A tract of land situate in Winton Township, Hertford County, N. C. adjoining the lands of the late J. L. Anderson and the old Camp Mfg. Co. Old Mill site, beginning at a pine on the North side of path leading from Winton to Camp Mfg. Co.'s Old Mill; thence down said path an East course to camp line; thence right angle to a big pine, a line tree for the Anderson land; thence a southeasterly course along said Anderson line to starting point, containing one acre more or less, excepting the graveyard, 15 X 86 feet.

PLACE OF SALE—Courthouse Door.

TIME OF SALE—29th day of October, 1923.

TERMS OF SALE—Cash. This September 24, 1923.

S. P. TAYLOR, Mortgagee.
Jno. E. Vann, Attorney 9-28-4t.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF FIVE (5) VALUABLE TRACTS OF TIMBER

We, the undersigned owners of the five tracts of timber hereinafter described, will offer them for sale to the highest bidder at the courthouse door in Winton, N. C., at noon on the 20th Day of October, 1923.

Terms and time for cutting to be made known at the sale:

First Tract: Tract of timber known as the Bartonsville timber, containing 450 acres, more or less.

Second Tract: Tract of timber known as the Barnes Timber, containing 191 acres, more or less.

Third Tract: Tract of timber known as the Gatling Tract of timber, containing 150 acres, more or less.

Fourth Tract: Tract of timber known as the Lowe Timber, containing 50 acres, more or less, and

Fifth Tract: Tract of timber known as the Jenkins Timber, containing 25 acres, more or less. This October 6th, 1923.

S. E. JORDAN,
W. M. JORDAN,
J. R. JORDAN.



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