

Sylvan Valley News

Our County—Its Progress and Prosperity the First Duty of a Local Paper.

BREVARD, TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1903.

VOL. VIII—NO. 14

MINER & BREESE.

Dunns Rock Lodge No. 267
A. F. & A. M.

Meets Friday on or before the full moon in each month, at 2 p. m. Visiting Masons are cordially invited to meet with us.
S. J. W. M. MAXWELL, Sec'y.

Professional Cards.

W. A. CASH,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
Rooms 7 & 8, McMinn Bldg, Brevard, N. C.

W. B. DUCKWORTH,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Investigation of Law Titles a Specialty.
Rooms 1 and 2, Pickelsimer Building.

V. W. ZACHARY,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
Offices in McMinn Block, Brevard, N. C.

D. L. ENGLISH,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.
U. S. Court practice a specialty.
Offices in Cooper Building, Brevard, N. C.

WELCH GALLOWAY,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.
Practices in all the courts.
Rooms 9 and 10 McMinn Block, Brevard, N. C.

J. H. McLEAN,
Dentist
Rooms 1 and 2 Cooper Bldg, Brevard, N. C.

Miscellaneous.

T. L. SNELSON,
Blacksmith and Horse-shoer.
Shop in Rear of Orr's Livery Stable.
Farmhouse and Wagon Building.
Wheewright work a specialty.

C. C. KILPATRICK,
CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER.
Room 13, McMinn Block, Brevard, N. C.
Estimates given on all kinds of work in the building line.

T. L. CLARKE,
Architect and Contractor,
Plans and specifications on all kinds of building work.

T. E. CRARY,
Contractor for All Kinds of Brick Work.
Cement Work, Plastering, Pebble-dash and Rough Casting a Specialty.
BREVARD, N. C.

J. O. DERMID,
The Reliable Jeweler.
Watches and Jewelry for sale. Fine Watch and Clock repairing. All Work guaranteed. West Main st.

A. C. NORTON,
Practical Boot and Shoemaker
Harness Work a specialty.
West Main Street near Caldwell.

Galloway, Duckworth & Co.,
REAL ESTATE DEALERS,
Rooms 3 and 4, McMinn Block, Brevard, N. C.
Buy and sell all kinds of Real Estate. Collect rents, and attend to property when owner is absent.
Farming and Timber Lands a Specialty.

Good Morning!

The News, Enlarged and Improved, Greet its Patrons with a Smile, and Seeks their Approval.

On this Friday morning April 3, 1903, the SYLVAN VALLEY NEWS goes to its readers with a bright clean face and "dressed in its best suit of clothes." It comes to you with a smile which spreads throughout its entire make-up caused by the successful achievement of its long cherished desire to be in every way worthy of the support you have given it. In its enlarged form, its new faces of display type, its improved machinery, its mechanical and editorial get up and in its advertising patronage it is the peer of any paper in the state published in a town of 2,000 population—and remember Brevard has only 600.

We come to our patrons this morning asking their approval, knowing that we shall not be ashamed to be sent abroad in answer to any question that may arise regarding Brevard and its business, and we ask all our readers, when answering inquiries about this section, to send a copy of the NEWS with their answer. A bright, clean, newsy paper is a better advertisement for any town than are its factories, hotels or other enterprises. Intelligence and capital are always attracted to that section which shows that an intelligent and progressive community are supporting a thoroughly up-to-date newspaper—especially if the chances are not all taken.

Brevard has been growing in the past five years, but that growth is only a start to what is before us in the next semi-decade. Some enterprises have located here, but they are only infants when compared with others that are seeking locations, and the NEWS will use its influence in aid of all new industries.

We are proud of our personal appearance this morning, and we are also proud of the matter which our paper contains. It has required a week of continuous hard work to change from 4 to 8 pages, but that work has been done willingly, because we have had the unanimous support of our business men. Look over our advertising columns—every mercantile establishment in Brevard is represented, and many other branches of business that are not mercantile. Instead of 24 columns to fill we now have 40, and when our business men learned this they came forward with increased space and as a result we issue the first copy of our enlarged paper without soliciting an advertisement away from home. We doubt if there is another town in the South where such unanimity of feeling exists—all political and personal differences are laid aside in an effort to make this paper a representative of the business houses here. We have heretofore said many nice things in regard to the wide-awake business methods of our merchants and other public men, but in the matter of advertising for this first month of our enlargement they have far exceeded our most sanguine expectations. There may be better locations where people get rich faster than we do in Brevard, but there is not another town of 600 population on earth that can show a more generous advertising patronage to its newspaper than is shown by us this morning. It does us good to say that we have an honorable, progressive, intelligent class of business men who are in every way worthy the patronage they receive. With such men in charge of our business interests, it is easy to predict what the future of Brevard will be. Keep your eyes on us—our town and county are coming to the front and the SYLVAN VALLEY NEWS will herald the good news to all our people.

Let Us Be Honest.

One of the growing evils of the present day is the effort made by all classes of humanity to "dodge" a part of the responsibilities of government by dodging a portion of the taxes which government makes necessary. The incentive to make or save money by this method was doubtless originated by the government itself in issuing securities which were non-taxable. When the millionaire can draw interest on his securities, and at the same time pay no taxes on them, the ordinary human can not understand why his investments also should not be exempt. The consequence is that thousands of dollars in notes and mortgages are laid away and are not "remembered" when the day comes for "giving in" property for taxation.

Then in the matter of acres—it is possible for a man to have a state grant for 50 acres only, while in reality he owns 250 acres. This occurs by "calling" for some other line—distance not given—and the entry clerk plats a sufficient distance in the specified direction to give the 50 acres called for. When a survey is made, if it ever is, the entry holds all to the line called for no matter how many acres it may be, and the acres specified are all that he pays taxes on.

But the worst feature of tax dodging in this country is the ridiculously low price at which lots and lands are listed. People seem to think that if lands are given in at their real value their taxes will be raised accordingly. This would be true if the increased value only applied to one tract, but if all were listed at their true value the per cent would be lowered. Under present conditions a would-be purchaser asks the price of a tract of bottom land, and is charged \$100 per acre. He then goes to look up its title

and finds that it is listed at \$20 per acre. He cannot understand why you should charge him 5 times its taxable value. It is the same with town lots and timber lands throughout the county. The tax books show a valuation of 50 cents per acre for wild land, but in reality there isn't an acre of land here that will not bring \$3—6 times as much as it is worth on the tax books. To a man who is seeking an investment this discrepancy in price is unexplainable, and he goes away without buying fully convinced that our people are trying to "do" him.

This is all wrong. Why not have an honest valuation on the tax books? It would not increase the amount of taxes levied a single dollar, while it would give to the outside world a true estimate of the wealth of the county. Be honest—here is work for the county commissioners and we hope they will instruct the assessors in each township to list property at something near its actual value. This will not add a dollar to any man's taxes while it will make it much easier to convince a buyer that we are not trying to swindle him. Why not be honest to yourself when you give in your taxes this summer?

A High-Water Experience.

"Lord Ullan's Daughter" Localized, without A Tragical Finale.

Chas. R. Clarke, the genial host of the McMinn house, and Mr. F. W. Klingensmith, a winter-sojourner at Mrs. Dr. Hunt's attractive winter resort, undertook a trip to Rockbrook farm on Monday. The French Broad was a raging torrent, the bottoms were a lake of vast extent and the effort to cross was simply "perilous." They rode to Mr. Tener's residence on horseback and then calling to their aid a boatman they proceeded to "take water," accompanied by Miss Tener. In imagination we rehearse that tragic poem of our youthful days, "Lord Ullan's Daughter," in their call to the boatman:

"And I'll give thee a silver pound To row us o'er the ferry."
And the boatman's response:
"Now who be ye would cross French Broad, This dark and stormy water?"
"Why I'm the chief of McMinn house And this Lord Tener's daughter."
But then, by rowing, and polling, and paddling, and bridging, they succeeded in reaching their destination without the tragic ending which the poem quoted developed—and all is well that ends well.

GOES UNRECOGNIZED.

Ex-President Harrison and His Sprightly Little Daughter Escape the Notice of New York Crows.

Benjamin Harrison, dressed in his usual black frock coat and a high silk hat, walked five blocks in the Broadway hotel district of New York, thronged with men and women, the other day and not one recognized him. "Baby" Harrison—"she's getting to be quite a miss," her father says—was tripping alongside, her little hand in his, and stepping on the cracks between the stones. She missed one. She halted and reached back one little foot to touch it. She jerked on the hand of her ex-presidential father, and he paused, stepped half a pace backward, and smiled benignly while "Baby" Harrison planted her foot on that crack. Nobody dreamed that the old gentleman obeying the child was an ex-chief magistrate of the United States.

James M. Trantham

The Decorator

Expert Assistants

Honest Work

All kinds of Exterior Painting

done

PAINTS SCIENTIFICALLY MIXED

Paper Hanging, Fresco Work and all kinds of interior finishing a specialty.

D. S. HAWKINS

The Jeweler

Silver Ware

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Clocks

Eyeglasses and Spectacles

Magnifying Glasses

Eyes examined and fine watch a

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P.

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ARTIST

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All work guaranteed a reasonable

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