

Sylvan Valley News

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

MINER & BREESE.

BREVARD, TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1903.

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Dunns Rock Lodge No. 257

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. sptly
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Calvert, N. C.

Our Embryo City.

Past and Present Growth and Prosperity of Brevard and the Outlook for Its Future.

We ought to feel a thrill of pride when our town is mentioned. It would be the grossest conceit to feel as proud of some individual achievement and publish it. In the case of our town, however, built and beautified by our united effort it is but right that we should exult in her progress and rejoice in her prosperity. It is also our duty to let the outside world know of it. We should challenge comparison with other towns, not with those of our size, but with larger ones. Brevard is fast gaining a reputation second to none in Western North Carolina for progress and prosperity.

Our location is ideal. We are protected from the cold north winds of winter by unbroken chains of lofty mountains immediately north of us, coming within two and a half miles of our limits. The glare of the mid-summer sun is counteracted by the shade of vast reaches of virgin forest. Fertile valleys surround us on every side, waiting but the tiller's touch to produce in abundance. Hillsides encircle us specially adapted for grazing and pasture lands. Small foot hills that would well repay the labors of the fruit raiser. Mountain streams innumerable that can furnish power in excess of any possible demand. Mountains and cove lands that are covered with forests yet untouched by the lumberman's axe.

For the sightseer we have waterfalls and mountain views in walking distance. Such are the natural resources of Brevard. These are a few of the inducements we can offer to the pleasure and home seeker. Brevard is the centre of a section most rich in natural resources, but undeveloped, and useless until they are developed. To obtain the full measure of our destined and ultimate prosperity we must develop and utilize our resources. We must attract the attention of investors who can use those resources which are now going to waste.

First impressions are generally the strongest, and most of the possible investors see Brevard before the balance of the county. We must therefore make our county seat attractive, make it so pleasant that the visitor who intended to stay but a week will become the owner of a home among us before he leaves. We cannot expect to locate any very great manufacturing plants here for some time, we have not the coal or other necessary adjuncts for great industries. We must rely largely on our climate and fertile soil for our growth. The small investor must be encouraged—the wishes of the pleasure seeker must be heeded.

The greatest demand made by the successful farmer at the present is good roads; the demand that must be heeded if we want visitors is good streets and good sidewalks. Asheville has been built by visitors. She made no progress until she issued bonds and paved her principal streets. We must follow the example set us and not let our neighbors outdo us in the matter of good roads and streets. While it may seem that a bond issue is burdensome for Brevard, still we must remember that if we ever progress we must keep up with the demands of the people who can and will settle among us and build up the country. We want many small farmers to come into the county and introduce intensive systems of farming. We must have our large farms divided up into many small and paying ones. To get such a class of men we must offer as good conditions as other sections—we must have good roads.

Brevard can now offer to the home seeker many advantages; to the business man many fine openings. We have as fine a water system as can be found—a gravity line bringing water from pure mountain streams that have no people living at or near their source; free from any possible pollution; ever clear and cold. We have a location that could not be improved upon. Our town is laid off systematically, wide streets and straight. The visitor is immediately impressed with the air of business and energy that prevails here; our stores present a citylike appearance. They are places where business is conducted in a business-like manner and are not the congregating places for whittling loafers. Our merchants sell their commodities at reasonable prices that compare favorably with prices in the cities; staple and fancy articles in all the lines can be found upon their shelves or in their warehouses.

"Every prospect pleases; our streets alone are vile." We hope that there will be no opposition to a reasonable issue of bonds so that we can still maintain the lead among our sister towns. We must improve our streets and sidewalks and we will then have an inflow of investors that will surprise the most sanguine well-wishers of our embryo city. Our town will build up rapidly. There will be buildings going up in every direction; our mechanics will have work all the time and we will all prosper. Should we have no opposition to issuing bonds for improving our town it would be an advertisement that could not be equalled. It would show the outside world that we did not have a single mossy-back among us and we would thrive apace. We trust that no one will oppose this bond issue without looking into the matter calmly and with consideration. See what has caused the growth of other towns in Western Carolina. Do not go to South Carolina for comparison for they have their towns that are largely built by cotton mills and like industries. We have not and cannot get them, we must rely on the small farmer and the pleasure and health seeker for our growth. Let us ever live up to the motto of Brevard "Progress and prosperity."

Garden of Eden Finally Located.

Up to date the evidence goes to show that man originated in Leavenworth county, in this state.—Topeka Daily Capital.

The Guide spent some time in the county above referred to a couple of years ago, and it certainly is an ideal place in point of attractive scenery, surroundings and healthfulness of climate.—Winston-Salem Business Guide.

Evidently the above writers have never visited the mountain sections of North Carolina. Having spent many months in Leavenworth, Kansas, we are fully posted on its reputation for cyclones and blizzards. To our mind there isn't a particle of doubt but the original garden was located in Transylvania county. As the burial place of Father Adam has never been authoritatively located, may it not be possible that the petrified gentleman recently found here is the paternal ancestor of the human race? At any rate the "find" on exhibition here last week is so crude in construction as to suggest the idea that it is the work of an apprentice in man-making.

TROLLEY CAR HELD UP.

Bold Work of Three Masked Men in Chicago.

Chicago, April 13.—Three masked men held up a street car near Garfield park and robbed seven passengers, the conductor and the motorman of \$100, a gold watch and some jewelry.

The highwaymen boarded the car near Sacramento avenue. One kept guard on the front platform and one on the rear, while the third entered the car and at the point of a revolver forced the occupants to give up their valuables.

The only woman on the car fell on her knees, praying for mercy, but without avail.

The matter was not reported to the police for some hours, and no clew has been found to what is the boldest hold-up of the kind in Chicago since Oct. 25.

PORTER WILL NOT RESIGN.

Has Simply Asked For Leave of Absence To Take a Rest.

Paris, April 11.—It is stated by those having knowledge of the facts that Ambassador Porter has no purpose of resigning. The only plans he has made are that after a short rest with his daughter, Elsie, at a point near here, he will probably resume his duties at the embassy. His friends were surprised at the publication here today of a report that he had asked for two months' leave to return to America. The only application he has made was forwarded weeks ago. It was not connected with recent events and did not permit of his visiting the United States. No application has thus far been made by the ambassador to go to America. The determination of his movements is awaiting an exchange of letters between the family.

Brunswick's Steel Plant Assured.

Baltimore, April 13.—Ex-Senator McLaurin, of South Carolina, in an interview here says the Mohawk Valley Steel company, of which he is vice president, has let contracts for the building of an immense iron and steel plant at Brunswick, Ga., to cost \$10,000,000. The president of the Mohawk company is F. Umstead, of New York.

Favors St. Louis Exposition.

St. Petersburg, April 11.—The Journal de St. Petersburg, publishes by the foreign office, today prints a special article on the St. Louis exposition pointing out the benefits to be derived therefrom.

The electric street lights at The Franklin make the other parts of the sidewalks look very dark and forbidding. We hope that it will not be so very long until we have good lights on all the important streets in town, including Whitwire street and Poke Berry alley.

James M. Trantham

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