

THE DANBURY REPORTER.

Published Every Thursday By N. E. & E. P. Pepper, Owners

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1905.

THE COW-HOUSE INCIDENT.

The cow-house incident was the only feature of the Asheville jaunt anywise unpleasant. There was in general an express, and in other cases a tacit, agreement among the newspaper men to not mention the affair, as all felt that a mistake had been made which was unwitting—that our genial host had offended where he meant to please, and that it would be the height of unkindness to partake of his hospitality and then criticize some feature of the entertainment that might not be exactly to our taste. So this paper had made up its mind to say nothing of the episode, but as many of the editors are discussing it quite freely, our readers are entitled to know the facts, which are these:

On receipt of Mr. Vanderbilt's cordial invitation, and immediately after the 12 o'clock noon meal, the editorial party left Kenilworth Inn in carriages for the visit. There were nearly a hundred vehicles in line, probably averaging four persons each, and among the crowd were a number of prominent Asheville people. Something of the sights seen on the drive through the millionaire's demesnes has already been noted in these columns. After traveling several hours over the splendidly macadamized roads and driveways, the party drew up at the dairy. This is a large brick and stone building with a town clock on it, looking like a court house, and possibly cost a good deal more than our new Stokes temple of justice. It is the place where hundreds of fine sleek Jersey and other kinds of improved cattle are milked. It has offices where numbers of clerks are busy looking after Mr. Vanderbilt's dairy business. Inside on a cement floor clean as a pin, long rows of stalls made by low iron railings receive the cows when the milking process begins. The animals were driven up just as we arrived, and as they came over the brow of a hill, the sight was very interesting. Between the rows of stalls, between long rows of cow-noses, in aisles probably eight feet in width, tables had been arranged bearing elegant refreshments of ice creams, sherbets, pastries, etc. It looked very inviting, the linen was immaculate, the spoons polished silver, the vessels apparently cut-glass. But there were the cows, and we were after all in a barn, and the dignity of some of the brethren began to be slightly ruffled. Others of the party felt embarrassed and didn't know what to do, being uncertain whether the millionaire had intended to honor them or had taken advantage of this opportunity to administer a rebuke to their democratic ideas, while still others got mad because the crowd wouldn't fall to and ate with a will, but nevertheless wouldn't take the initiative. Consequently, an extremely embarrassing situation was the result. The party in which the writer was, after viewing the many interesting breeds and species of cattle, and looking at the sights and things around and about, repaired to their carriages and, the dairy having been the last number on the program, returned to the hotel.

It was learned afterwards that a few of the folks ate in the dairy and felt ireful toward those who did not conform themselves to the northerner's program, while the majority of the crowd gathered outside on the lawn; and finally Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt, whether by pre-arrangement or whether they had got wind of the hitch in the proceedings, drove down in their carriage and personally superintended the affair; that the lunch was served on the beautiful lawns adjacent and was very good. The distinguished couple were said to have been exceedingly nice to the visitors, and to have regretted the affair, etc., etc. It was even reported that Mr. Vanderbilt admitted that the incident was a blunder of his foreman, an Englishman, and to have discharged that functionary for his awkwardness, which last statement is probably a stretching of the facts.

Lunching in dairies is said to be a novel form of entertainment by royalty, a custom in England, and to be a kind of social fad at fashionable places in America. But Mr. Vanderbilt might have been less profuse with his fads of royalty on this occasion, and not have sprung them on plain North Carolina and Virginia editors, who, however, do not object to eating with cows if they know the form to be a la Newport, doncherknow.

PLEASURABLE EVENTS COMING.

- July 27, Farmers Institute at Danbury.
- August 12, Meeting of Old Soldiers at Danbury.
- August 21, Teachers Institute at Danbury, continuing 2 weeks.
- August 26, Sunday School Convention at Danbury.

Besides these events, there are township Sunday School conventions, religious and social gatherings, etc., galore, giving the people plenty of recreation during the finest season of the year when the hardest work is well nigh over, and the crops are laid by.

ADMITS WE ARE RIGHT.

"Mc" is quite lavish in his praises of our public road system, and thinks the Reporter is "blind as a bat" regarding its merits. And yet he unguardedly establishes the truth of our contention when he admits that all efforts to enforce the law have failed absolutely. That is exactly our point. The real law may be beautiful in theory, but as far as giving us good roads is concerned, it is a nonentity. The value of a law is measured by the practical results which it effects, not by what it might, could, would or should have done.

SUMMER RESORTS FLOURISHING.

The Stokes county summer resorts seem to be flourishing this season—Piedmont, Moore's and Vade Mecum each having good crowds in spite of the unfavorable weather. It rains nearly every day, and this generally runs the guests back from the muddy roads of the mountains to the city, but this time it has but little affected the size of the crowds.

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 Monteagle, Tenn.—Monteagle Bible Training School, July 3-Aug. 15, 1905.
 Monteagle, Tenn.—Monteagle Sunday School Institute, July 17-Aug. 5, 1905.
 Monteagle, Tenn.—Woman's Congress, Aug. 1-15, 1905.
 Nashville, Tenn.—Peabody College, Summer School's Vanderbilt Biblical Institute, June 14-Aug. 9, 1905.
 Oxford, Miss.—Summer School, University of Mississippi, June 14-July 26, 1905.
 Richmond, Va.—Farmers' National Congress, Sept. 12-22, 1905.
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