

THE Danbury Reporter.

N. E. & E. P. PEPPER, Publishers.

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FEBRUARY 22, 1906

A WORD TO THE REPORTER'S CORRESPONDENTS.

We appreciate your letters very much indeed. They are the life and soul of the paper. But by a little thought you can make your communications of a great deal more interest to the public in general and save us a lot of trouble. Here are a few rules which all writers are respectfully urged to observe, and all who desire to correspond for the paper will do well to clip this whole article.

WHAT TO WRITE.

1. Deaths. Give full name of deceased, and the names of surviving relatives, cause of death, date of death, time of funeral, name of officiating minister, place of burial, and any other facts pertaining to the event that you can get.

2. Marriages. Names of contracting parties and of their parents, date of marriage, name of minister or official who performed the ceremony, names of witnesses present, future home of bride and groom, manner in which bride was dressed, and any facts connected with either of the parties or the occasion that you can think of.

3. Births. These are very important and legitimate items of news, and every birth in the neighborhood should be promptly sent to the Reporter.

4. Accidents. All kinds of accidents, such as cuts, falls, fires, run-aways of stock, kicks from mules, etc., where the injury to person or property is in anywise serious, should be promptly reported.

5. Social Matters. Every ball, party, dinner, reception, quilting, etc., should be written up. Give the place of the occasion, the name of the host or hostess, the names of all the guests in attendance, and every incident of the occasion. These affairs are of great interest to the ladies, and men, too.

6. Church Notices. Give the date and place where and when there is to be a meeting. After the meeting give preacher's text and size of the audience present, and any report of the sermon that you are able to make.

7. Miscellaneous. Everything that is news. Personals are interesting, removals to and from the neighborhood, the biggest hogs killed, new dwellings and other houses being built, industries of various kinds being started, big prices received for tobacco, anything that's news, write it down and send it in.

Newspaper corresponding should prove a very pleasant and helpful pastime for the younger members of the family. It is a dignified work, and one that it pays to learn, as the way has often been paved for highly lucrative work on the city papers and magazines by practicing as country correspondents. Many of the leading novelists of the world began their literary career by corresponding for country newspapers.

The Reporter expects to offer a nice prize in the future to the correspondent who writes the newest and most sensible letters.

WHAT NOT TO WRITE.

Don't say "Miss Scindy is wear-

ing a broad smile, as her best fellow called Sunday." This expression is so stale that it makes our readers sleepy. Change it somehow. If you must record so unimportant a fact, say "Miss Scindy is carrying an extended physiognomy, as her preferred victim paid his respects last Sunday." Something like this would be an innovation very refreshing indeed.

Don't begin with the state of the weather. When your letter reaches us the weather may have materially changed.

Don't end with best wishes to the Reporter, etc. Our space is limited, and while we appreciate your felicitations, we are compelled to cut out all surplusage.

Don't say Mr. A. B. C. called on Miss E. F. G. This can be interesting only to those who are quick at hieroglyphics, and few of us are that.

WHEN TO WRITE.

Write before everybody in the county can have a chance to hear of the news. Send your letter so as to reach us not later than Tuesday night.

HOW TO WRITE.

Write plainly with a pen, if convenient, and leave plenty of white space between the words and the lines. Write only on one side of the paper and number the pages.

CROSS-INDEX BADLY NEEDED.

A cross-index book is badly needed in the Register's office here, as the old one is old-fashioned, worn out and many of the leaves are loose and liable to become lost. Nobody but an astute lawyer, or one accustomed by long practice to the work, can trace a title under the present mode.

The Board of County Commissioners would do well to purchase an index-book of the latest pattern. It would prove of immense advantage to the people who are concerned in the records of the county, and would be a time and labor-saver.

Consumption

There is no specific for consumption. Fresh air, exercise, nourishing food and Scott's Emulsion will come pretty near curing it, if there is anything to build on. Millions of people throughout the world are living and in good health on one lung.

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PRESERVE THE FORESTS.

A Subject of Vital Interest to the People of Stokes County.

Mr. Editor:

The remarks you made in last week's Reporter about preserving the forests are worthy of serious consideration, and we wish to offer a few thoughts along the same line.

There are various reasons why we should preserve our forests. The clearing up of so much of our forest lands, and poor methods in cultivating our fields have resulted in giving us extremes of heat and cold and of wet and dry weather that were almost unknown before so much of the land was cleared up. The temperature and moisture content of the atmosphere is not so uniform as it used to be. And the rainfall is not so generally or evenly distributed as it used to be, but is more of a local nature. The rain comes more in storms and floods than formerly. And it seems to me that all these disadvantages constitute somewhat of a sad commentary on the intelligence of the people. For I feel sure that in a great measure we have or could have these things under our control. Or in other words, we have the power to modify to some extent the temperature and moisture content of the atmosphere, and the distribution of the rainfall, and thus prevent in great measure, the extremes of heat and cold and of wet and dry, and the violence of the storms and floods. But if we will not put ourselves and our work in proper relation to the laws of nature as regards these things, we may expect to suffer for our neglect. For nature will be avenged of her wrongs. But how can we in any way modify these things? I answer that we may do it in various ways. Or in other words, there are various things over which we have control and which may be united and serve as factors to bring about the desired results along these lines. But of course, the results cannot be brought about immediately. But by beginning now and working along proper lines, in 25 or 30 years we will have gained considerable control over these unfavorable conditions. The two most important things to do, is, first, to stop cutting down the forests, and secondly, to stop cultivating any more land than can be cultivated in such a way as to produce luxuriant crops and allow all the other cleared land to grow up and get covered with some kind of bush or growth as speedily as possible.

To plant acorns and nuts freely on all our fields that we cannot cultivate in such a way as to make crops of good growth and abundant foliage, would be somewhat like depositing money at high interest for our children. But you ask what all this has to do with the seasons. I answer: Any thing that will catch and hold the water or rainfall and keep it from running off the surface of the land into the streams or water-courses, acts as a reservoir to store up the water for future use. And there is no better or more valuable reservoir for storing the rainfall for future needs of our crops than our forests or wood lands; the deep mellow humus-filled soils of our cultivated fields excepted. For but little water runs off the surface of these forest lands, but it is stored in the soil near our fields, and then evaporated or pumped back into the atmosphere by and through the leaves of the trees, and only needs air currents of the proper temperature to float it over our fields and condense and precipitate it in showers of rain for the good of our growing crops. Whereas, if the land is naked and bare as is the case with most of our poor worn out fields, the rain coming in torrents as it now often does, most of the water runs off the surface of the land into the streams and on into the ocean, and must be evaporated and wait for wind currents to bring it back to us before we get

it. And even then it often comes in such torrents and with such gusts of wind the greater part of it runs off the surface of the land and into the streams again. But while the forests act as a reservoir and gather the water and pump it into the atmosphere near to our fields for future rains, and the future good of our crops, we may make our cultivated fields serve as a reservoir to catch and hold the rainfall for both the immediate and future needs of our crops. But this can be done only by deep plowing and filling the soil with an abundance of organic or vegetable matter. When we get our fields or cultivated land in this condition, and the remainder of the land covered with forests or some such growth, then by proper cultivation we will make abundant crops. For the land will take up and hold about all the rainfall except that which percolates through the ground to feed the springs. Instead of the water running off the surface of the land, washing and sweeping on in torrents and destructive floods to the ocean, it will be stored in our fields and forests for the immediate and future needs of our crops. And, as already stated, the temperature, the humidity or moisture content of the atmosphere will be more uniform, and the rainfall more evenly distributed.

Another reason why the forests should not be destroyed is that they break the violence of the winds, and, as already stated, they temper the atmosphere, making it warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer. Furthermore, the forests must supply much of the fuel, and all of the building timbers for the generations.

It may seem to the reader that what I have said is all foolishness. But if we will begin now and observe and do the things I have suggested in this letter for the next 25 or 30 years I believe that then we will have made considerable progress towards primitive conditions, so far as destructive floods and the extremes of wet and dry weather and other climatic conditions are concerned.

To sum it all up in a few words, it seems that the thing for us to do is to get all of our land in a condition to catch and hold the rainfall, and let it be pumped or evaporated back into the atmosphere through the foliage of luxuriant crops, and the trees and bush of the forests. Then the soil will respond to our labors and empty its treasures into our hands.

DOG-KILLER.

N. & W. Norfolk & Western R.R.

SCHEDULE IN EFFECT DEC 3, 1905

Daily Ex. Sun.	Daily Ex Sun	Daily Ex Sun	Daily Ex Sun
PM	AM	PM	PM
2:50	7:30	Lv Winston	Ar 2:00 10:00
3:28	8:13	" Wal. Cove "	1:21 9:20
5:00	9:50	" Martinsv. "	11:45 7:49
7:25	12:30	Ar Roanoke	Lv 9:20 5:15
P. M. P. M.		A. M. P. M.	

WESTBOUND—LEAVE ROANOKE DAILY.
4:10 a m—For East Radford, Bluefield, Tazewell and Norton, Pullman Sleeper to Columbus, Ohio, cafe car.
5:15 a m—(Washington and Chattanooga Limited) For Pulaski principal stations, Bristol and the South, Pullman Sleepers to New Orleans and Memphis, cafe car.
4:25 p m—The St. Louis Express, for Bluefield, Pocahontas, Kenova, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Columbus and Chicago, Pullman Buffet Sleepers Roanoke to Columbus and Bluefield to Cincinnati, cafe car.
4:35 p m—For Bluefield and intermediate stations.
4:45 p m—Daily. For Bristol and intermediate stations Knoxville, Chattanooga and point South. Pullman Sleeper to Knoxville.
9:30 a m—For Bristol and intermediate stations Bluefield, Norton, Pocahontas and Welch, Pullman Sleeper to Welch.

NORTH AND EASTBOUND
1:50 p m—For Petersburg, Richmond and Norfolk, Pullman Buffet car to Norfolk.
1:45 p m—For Washington, Hagerstown, Philadelphia and New York via Hagerstown and Harrisburg, Pullman Sleeper to New York.
7:45 p m—For Hagerstown, Pullman Sleeper to Philadelphia.
1:01 a m—For Richmond and Norfolk, Pullman Sleeper Lynchburg to Norfolk and Richmond.
12:10 a m—(Washington and Chattanooga Limited). For Washington, Philadelphia and New York via Lynchburg, Pullman Sleepers to Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York.
7:10 a m—For Lynchburg, Petersburg, Richmond and Norfolk.
7:45 p m—Daily. For Lynchburg, Pullman Sleeper for Richmond.

DURHAM DIVISION.
Leave Lynchburg (Union Station) daily except Sunday 3:00 a m 4:30 p m for South Boston and Durham and intermediate stations.
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