

**A LETTER FROM MR. VERMONT. AT THE CAPITAL OF BEULAH.**

Tells Herald Readers Something of the Beauty of the Mountains and Lawns Around His Asheville Home.

My dear Mr. Editor:

I have received so many letters and cards from Johnston County that I feel like sending a letter to the friends, through the columns of The Herald. A man does not live in a place as long as I did in Smithfield, without learning to appreciate some of the finer qualities of its people. At a distance one realizes perhaps better the value of friends, their true, worthwhile qualities. And there be some very fine people in Johnston County. But, I am to write about Asheville.

If a man had set out to find a finer place to select him a home, than Asheville, that man would have had to travel far. We live about a quarter of a mile from Grove Inn Park, the link of the most famous Golf turf practically touch the line of our home. To describe the beauty of this verdant paradise passes the powers of any man's pen. Imagine a lawn of the bluest Blue Grass, even short, undulating to the foot of a superb mountain covered with white pine, oak, walnut and myriads of other trees. A green carpet stretching for miles from our home over the mountains. On that carpet the great Grove Park Inn, wrought in grey boulder, capped with a red waving roof. The whole recalling the splendor of a Saxon Manor, but modernized, beautified until the spectator, who for the first time beholds this beauty, stops in utter helplessness of expression—literally "too beautiful for words." A king could have done no better with this mountain beauty.

Then the mountains! To sit on your porch and see the clouds slowly pass over the peaks, whilst the sun pours in them all the glory of its golden light—to see mountain tops even as they shall be in the great Hereafter, touched with the Light that comes from the Hand of God—makes a man truly humble and happy, and almost proud of his kinship with the Creator—Just to be allowed to live where He pours out all the beauty, all the exalted glory of His Power is a challenge to a better, a nobler life. The man, who would walk in these wonderful mountains, whose mind would never raise to a prayer of praise and thanksgiving would be unworthy of the mind that God gave him.

Useless to say that the days have passed rapidly. The climate is so ideal that one can spend every hour in the pleasant tasks of labor. Just to live, to be, to work! I seem to understand better how all those great and grand Saints of the Old Testament could think the beautiful thoughts they wrote. They lived on that mountain range of Palestine where the air is invigorating and man thinks because thoughts seem to drift over the Mountains with the clouds, and Light is on their summits. The air that rushes in the valley is burdened with the song and the stir of a thousand pines, and the fragrance of a thousand flowers is about the breeze. The very rays of the sun whip your muscles into elastic step, or warm your brain to thought.

The night that rolls in great waves from the mountain into the valley is like the embrace of a Mother. It wraps you about, greatly lulling you to slumber. It is all beautiful, and never monotonous. And here I pray that I never may see the greatness of these mountains with an eye indifferent, but that I may ever be reverent, appreciative of the Power that flung all this beauty at our feet.

The boys and girls in our school—Mountaineers with a bright eye, a keen glance, a light step. One invited me to a fishing trip. How I wished my old Boy Scouts had been with me! We waded the waters of the greenest, cleanest, brightest stream that ever coursed from cove or crag. And therein lived and leaped the prettiest trout, wrapped in the thousand colors of the rainbow. We built our camp, cooked our supper, sat by the cabin and the odor of the balsam and of the pine, the fragrance of the whole mountain and the whiff of smoke from our camp-fire were about us. And we slept in those mountains, in that cabin shack, happy as they who live only for to-morrow.

What man, with red blood in his veins, would not be happy in this Land of the Sky? And then comes the next dream: just to see those old fine Smithfield boys and girls tramp with me in this country of God. Proud that our old Carolina has its wealthy East, its wonderful West. Then the camp at night, the curling smoke, the flickering flame, the sleep under a sheltering tree, and the tales of yore, of days never to be forgotten.

A. VERMONT.  
Asheville, N. C., Sept. 22nd.

Don't be content with doing your bit for the country, do your best.

Kenly, Sept. 20.—Monday night the local chapter of the Red Cross Society splendid vacant lot next to the parking soldier boys of this community. Mr. M. B. Andrews presided, and the following drafted or volunteer soldiers enjoyed the splendid supper: Messrs. L. C. Williams, Nathaniel Flowers, D. W. Hardison, H. R. Renfro, Jesse Sauls, Luther Etheridge, Ernest Pittman, Solon Winstead, Edmundson Hooks, E. H. Pittman, Rudolph Kirby, and J. W. Glover. Other young men of the community have been drafted, but they were unable to be present at the supper.

The official and especially interested members of the Methodist church here held a meeting at the parsonage Tuesday night for the purpose of discussing the possibility and advisability of building a new church on the splendid vacant lot next to the parsonage, which is only half a block from the railroad station.

Monday night of this week the members of the Annie Benson Wesley Class of the Methodist church were entertained by Mrs. H. M. Grizard in her lovely home. During the enthusiastic business meeting, the members agreed among themselves to begin at once and continue indefinitely to support an orphan in the church institution at Raleigh. After the business session, Mrs. Grizard and her little nieces served a delightful course of hot chocolate and wafers.

The two literary societies of the Kenly State High School have just been re-organized for the year. The officers elected for the Rollins' Society are the following: Messrs. Floyd Wellons, President; Hooks Richardson, Vice-President; and Joe Broadwell, Secretary and Treasurer. The officers elected for the Thalian Society are the following: Misses Agnes Watson, President; Myrtle Watson, Vice-President; and Clara Eason, Secretary and Treasurer. All the members of each society were most heartily pleased by an announcement made by Principal Harry P. Johnson to the effect that he will give a magnificent gold medal to the girl or boy of the high school who makes the best showing in the triangle debate contest to be held next spring, provided both of the Kenly teams win. Superintendent M. B. Andrews took this occasion to announce that several patriotic and loyal educational citizens of the town have kindly consented each to give a splendid gold medal or a cash bank deposit for the best work in the several branches of the high school and elementary school courses. The school offered only one medal last year; and even it was paid for as an advertising scheme by a publishing company in New York City. The medal last year was won by Mr. Earl Southard for an essay on "The Short-Story—An American Product."

**CORN MARKET IS UNSETTLED.**

Prices Recede and Then Rise Again on Frost Reports. Oats Quite Steady.

It is still a weather market in corn, as usual at this season, and prices vary with the news from the fields. The early trend this week was mainly downward, because conditions over Sunday were favorable, and the December delivery in Chicago sagged to within a small fraction of \$1.10, with May at about \$1.11. The easing in old cash corn was a factor in the decline and sentiment leaned toward the bear side; but the frost menace soon made itself felt again and the option list recovered, with December up to \$1.20 1/4 and May to \$1.17 on Thursday. Not all of the improvement was held, but the week ended with gains of 1 1/2 c. and 1 c. over last Saturday's closing quotations. That low temperatures have done some injury to the crop no one now doubts, and the Government's weekly advice indicates considerable of it in Minnesota. But it states that the damaged corn there is good for feed or silos and, taking the belt as a whole, there has thus far been comparatively little loss. It has been the fear of frost, rather than any actual injury of importance, that has influenced the markets.

Most people now know, as well-informed observers were aware when the reports first appeared, that the recent talk of general closing down of flour mills through lack of wheat was misleading. If proof of this were needed, it is seen in the increased production at Minneapolis during the week ending September 15, fully 459,000 barrels, against less than 393,000 in the same period last year, according to the Northwestern Miller. But statements that wheat is coming forward slowly can meet with no denial, for western receipts this week are only 6,300,000 bushels and compare with more than 11,000,000 a year ago.—Dun's Review.

If the suggestions of the Food Administration are followed Brer Rabbit will have a prominent place on bills of fare in North Carolina this fall and winter.

**NO SEIZURE OF HOME FOODS.**

Government Does Not Intend to Take Over Food Supplies of Individual Families.

Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 22.—Denying a rumor circulating generally that it is the purpose of the National Government to seize food supplies belonging to individual families, Director B. W. Kilgore, of the Agricultural Extension Service, calls emphatic attention to a recent statement received by him from Washington that the Government does not intend to seize any home food supplies. Many variations of this rumor have been deliberately circulated and many families have been prevented from conserving foods thereby. Mr. Kilgore states that this rumor has probably been circulated by our enemies for the purpose of preventing our people from canning, drying and otherwise conserving their food products.

The Extension Service of the College of Agriculture and Department of Agriculture has through its various divisions and field workers emphasized the importance of saving all food possible in order that households themselves may have a cheap and plentiful supply of food. There has never been any intention of the Federal Government to seize any of this. Rather, it would be more likely to further encourage the conservation of still more food in order that the output of staple food products from the chief producing regions be available for use by the armies of this country and of our allies.

Some families state that they heard that all canned materials over 100 quarts will be seized. Others state that all canned food will be taken and sent to England. All of this is absurd. The State and National Agricultural Agencies wish to do all in their power to aid in the helping to combat the high cost of living and for this reason have furnished men and women to instruct the people how to can, preserve and dry perishable food products, properly. Director Kilgore appeals to all loyal citizens to aid in dispelling any mistaken idea that may exist in regard to food seizure and to further encourage the efforts of producers to save all available food materials possible.

**RECOVERY IN COTTON MARKET.**

Prices Up Sharply from Recent Low Levels, With Decided Change in Sentiment.

Many times, and with reason, it has been said that cotton is nothing if not surprising, and this week's rise of over \$15 a bale in the option list upset not a few calculations. With the gains of late last week added, there has been an extreme recovery of more than \$19 from the recent low levels, or to the basis of 23 1/2 c. for October and 23 3/4 c. or better for December, January and March deliveries, and the local spot quotation has rallied from 21.20c. to 24.70c. When it is considered that from the top position of early August prices of futures broke fully \$33 within about a month, the improvement now seen does not appear altogether strange; but it has been called astonishing, for the previous decline had been so persistent that to some people it had looked as if the market could go no other way. That it has, does not convince everyone, however, that the movement is to prove lasting, though the best figures of the week were witnessed on Friday.

Not all seemed to agree as to what was mainly responsible for the week's further advance, but if the market had not been oversold it would have gone less far. Recurrence of the now familiar peace talk had something to do with prompting continued covering by shorts and renewed buying for long account, while stronger spots in the South, some revival of the domestic and foreign trade demand and the Government's weekly weather report all had more or less effect. Indeed, the official summary of crop conditions was by some interests said to have been the chief propelling force behind the upturn in prices, though there was nothing really alarming in it, and advices from some other sources stated that the crop in a general way was doing well. While speculative sentiment has changed decidedly and now leans to the bull side, some people still think that in the long run the weight of the bales will tell and that the market may conceivably go back to around the 20c. basis. But it is observed that receipts do not yet equal last year's.—Dun's Review, 22nd.

The whole edition of 25,000 copies of the second series of "A Student in Arms" was taken up by the booksellers in advance, which means that a second edition was immediately assured. If the war has been adverse to the interests of literature generally, individual authors and publishers have manifestly reaped a full harvest.

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