

# Real Bargain Sale of Leather Furniture in Mahogany and Quarter-Sawed Oak



Guaranteed Leather Couches and Davenports ranging in price from.....\$25.00 to \$100.00



Streit Patent Reclining Morris Chairs. \$15.00 to \$35.00  
Velour and Imitation Leather Morris Chairs \$6.50 to \$15.00

## NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY CHAIRS, ROCKERS, COUCHES, SOFA BEDS, DAVENPORTS, TURKISH ROCKERS AND MISSION FURNITURE AT LOWER PRICES THAN YOU EVER SAW FOR HIGH GRADE FURNITURE.

On December 1st we begin the most beautiful and exclusive Leather Furniture Sale ever held in this city. For months we have been preparing our plans, scouring the markets for just the right things to take your eye. Now we have it. It is Genuine Leather Guaranteed Furniture. Every piece of our Guaranteed Leather Furniture is guaranteed not to crack or stick.

Never before were you offered such beautiful and comfortable designs. It is a bargain opportunity for you that you should not let pass by.

Guaranteed Leather Furniture for every room in the house, and the prices mean money left in your pockets.

Our display of all kinds of Holiday Furniture the largest and most exclusive ever shown. Our out-of-town friends and customers can save money by placing orders with us. We will pay freight and guarantee safe delivery.



Turkish Chairs and Rockers from \$22.50 to \$75.00 each

# Parker-Gardner Company

Furniture, Carpets, Rugs, Pianos. Largest Dealers in the State.

### ECHOES FROM CLUBDOM

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The department of literature will be entertained by Mrs. C. G. McMannaway at her home on Sixth street Tuesday, December 1st at 11 o'clock. The literature of France in the sixteenth century is the subject. Mrs. B. D. Heath acting as chairman. The programme will be as follows: "Comments Upon French Literature," Mrs. B. D. Heath; "Rabelais—Great Philosopher, Great Artist, Great Author," Mrs. F. C. Abbott; "John Calvin, a Biographical Sketch," Mrs. I. W. Falcon; "Discussion—Historical Pointers," led by Mrs. Lockwood Jones.

#### GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, December 28, at 4 o'clock in Hanna Hall of the new Y. M. C. A. Building the club will meet. After the general club matters and business have been attended to the department of education will have charge of a programme bearing on their phase of work.

The chairman, Mrs. I. W. Durham, has been fortunate to secure Mr. E. R. Preston, so well known as a profitable and charming speaker, to lecture on "The Methods for Curtailing the Number of Juvenile Offenders." All club members will be privileged to hear Mr. Preston and all teachers, mothers or interested individuals are invited to attend this lecture so much anticipated, and so fittingly given in this magnificent new building, that is one part of the solution of the question in hand. The lecture will be followed by questions and open discussion of this topic so vital to the welfare of all; the preservation of the youth whose morals have not been depraved and the reclaiming and saving to the cause of good citizenship and decency the child so unfortunate as to have started wrong. It remains to be seen whether the ladies will endorse the methods so highly recommended by Red Bluck and Solomon for the bringing about of much needed reforms along these lines or develop new methods of efficacy.

This week devoted to the observance of the great American holiday, Thanksgiving, has found club women busy rather as individual homemakers and Lady Bountiful than as devotees of club work, and club circles in Charlotte have been accordingly inactive, as they should have been, for the principles of club women are to develop, sustain and uphold the home life and the home ties, to be the family friend and ingathering of children and relatives, have not been hindered by the presence of a woman's club in the Queen City. As an evidence of the earnestness of purpose and purpose of incentive for the betterment of the household, the department of household economics have collected, compiled and had printed in the "Woman's Club Cook Book" the results of much individual experience and research. It contains many strictly Southern dishes and the Southern way of preparing many of them, and so on with dishes that have their proper flavor, appetizing odors and appearance when they come the Mason and Dixon line for the South-

### FUTURE OF OUR FORESTS

(Paper read at the "Forest Festival" at Biltmore Thursday, November 28th, by Mr. B. F. Keith, collector of customs at the port of Wilmington.)

The future destiny of the South depends upon the protection of its forests. This being true, the question arises, how is it to be done. From Virginia to Texas, we have a narrow strip on the Atlantic Slope of long leaf, short leaf, and loblolly pine. The long leaf pine alone in this belt, gives to the South annually something like twenty millions of dollars in the production of tar, pitch, and spirits of turpentine, besides the hundreds of medicinal purposes, both for man and beast, for which the spirits of this long leaf pine is used, and when its virtue is fully appreciated, and its true value considered, it may well be counted the most valuable tree on the face of the earth, as even the straw has many useful purposes.

There are thousands of consumptives who are living to-day by means of coming in contact with the product of this noted tree. The lifeless wood, timber of the forest whose duration for usefulness is only for a year or two, can be made to withstand the weather, water and other exposures, almost indefinitely, if continued application of the product of the long leaf pine is given every few years. These trees should not be boxed, as it destroys their growth and often causes them to blow down or invite forest fires which burn and kill them, but instead the cup should be used, which can be done successfully for a number of years, and then the tree out, and timber even then is the most durable of any timber that we have. Like the old or when he is worn out, he is the most valuable. The long leaf pine thrives best on poor sandy soil, while the short leaf and loblolly pine do best in swamps, bottoms, etc., and is equally as valuable for timber, but not for spirit, pitch, etc.

Take the forests of North Carolina as a whole, comprising its cypress, ash, elm, tupelo, sweet and red gum, poplar, oak, hickory, bass-wood and hemlock, producing more than its proportion of the three hundred species in the South and constituting a great portion of the wealth of our State and Southland. It is estimated that three-fifths of the standing timber of the United States is now in the South, and that one-half of the labor employed in the forests of the United States is employed in the South, producing annually something like one hundred and seventy-five millions of dollars. While the North and West have almost depleted their supplies of this product, the main source of the product, must come from the South in the future. At the rapid rate at which it is being cut, the government reports say, the supply will only last about twenty-eight years longer. Isn't it time for every thinking person to sit up and take notice of the marvellous destruction of our forests which is destroying our agricultural as well as greatly affecting our manufacturing interests.

The greatest enemies of our forests are the pinny woods rooster, scrub cat, and the reckless lumberman. The pinny woods rooster is a species of hog that has four legs, known as razor back or red bell with both ends sharp, and is allowed to run at large and whose chief business is to root up the young pine, destroying the bulk

as well as the roots, consequently making deserts out of our sandy soil, which if undisturbed by this worthless hog, would spontaneously produce young pines without special attention. These hogs also eat the acorns in the bottoms and swamps, that like the pine, would soon reproduce themselves and litter the ground with leaves, decayed limbs, etc., that would give protection to the soil against the heavy rains that would absorb, more or less, and keep the ground porous, so the soil would absorb it, thus keeping the sun from baking it, as it does, which sheds the rain almost equivalent to a board floor, and rushes the water into ditches instead of being absorbed through the soil, then on to the rivulets, creeks, rivers, and on to the ocean, overflowing and destroying the land he yours or not, also carrying to the sea phosphates and carbonates of lime which are the life of the soil, thus leaving it poverty stricken, and to be replenished by artificial fertilizers, and making it often unprofitable to the agriculturist, and causing the innocent to suffer for the lack of state-men in our Legislature, who should say to the owner of the wicked lumberman, you shall not cut any timber below a certain size, and you must have skilled men to superintend the cutting of said timber and not destroy the younger growth, whether the land be yours or not, also saying to the naval store manufacturer, you must use the cup and not box the pine. If the thinking people who are the guardians of the State and nation, would rise up in their might and condemn by their votes, any of the legislators who will not protect our forest, which they can be giving us the stock law for our State, and proper restriction over our lumbermen and naval store operators, where the tree has from seven to eight months to grow against four to five months in the North and West we will have an annual forest wealth, surpassed only by our cotton crop. Then, too, our agricultural and manufacturing interests will be protected, owing to the fact that the litter created by the forest will absorb the rainfall, thus giving the water course the greater portion of the rain that falls, and supplying our water power with sufficient water at all seasons and saving to the agriculturist on the course of these streams the great loss, now almost annually caused from overflows, and saving to the government millions of dollars now expended in dredging these rivers, besides giving to other sections more gradual rainfall, owing to the pine forest that will moss grow up, and the dampness from the ground causing vapor to arise which will produce clouds and rain, thus restoring our seasons, improving our agricultural interests, as well as replenishing our forests.

### NO TRACE OF PERRYMAN

Threat of suicide seems to have been carried out by him, but body is not found.

High Point, Nov. 25.—Notwithstanding the fact that the search goes on for Isaac Perryman, who mysteriously disappeared from his home Tuesday after writing a postal saying he intended killing himself Thursday, nothing definite has yet developed and a visit to his home in the county to-day developed the fact that the house was deserted and the family at the home of neighbors. Perryman also told his neighbors to have his grave ready to-day and that he would be at the river Thursday, thus signifying his intention of drowning himself. His wife believed her husband crazy and got out a warrant to keep him from doing himself or family injury. There is some concern about the deputy sheriff not being active enough in the search.

Perryman imagined every one against him and also said witches were after him. Reports to-night are that he shot and a pistol was missing during search. All signs point to the carrying out of the suicide threat.

Carolina to plant any trees, as they will grow up and reproduce themselves, and we will soon have a forest every where, except where the land is cultivated. Then pass strict laws to protect the forests from fires, which can be done by a small tax levy, and let there be one fire over-seer in each school district, giving him the power in case of fire to summon every male citizen from sixteen to large, destroying annually more than they would bring if they were put upon the market, besides being distributors of disease, such as cholera, Texas fever, etc., which make it almost impossible for the progressive element in this State to raise stock profitably.

Can't we all stand together and form one solid body, pleading the just cause before the Legislature in January, for the protection of our forest which means more than most statesmen can conceive. If so, begin now the movement we are advocating by writing your representative to give us a State stock law and our national forest reserve, that the nation especially North Carolina, looking to with so much favor, will be solved to a great extent by beginning it at home.

### RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE

The address which follows: directed to the business men of the country by President J. T. Canfield, of the Railway Mail Association, is taken from The Railway Postoffice, and is published by request.

The railway mail service of the United States is organized with general headquarters at Washington, D. C., and divisional headquarters in sixteen principal cities of the country, viz., at Boston, Mass.; New York, N. Y.; Atlanta, Ga.; Washington, D. C.; Cincinnati, O.; Chicago, Ill.; St. Louis, Mo.; San Francisco, Cal.; Cleveland, O.; St. Paul, Minn., and Fort Worth, Tex.

REQUIREMENTS.

There are about 15,000 clerks and officers, 14,000 assigned to duty in railway mail cars and 1,400 as transfer clerks, office clerks and in supervisory capacities. The occupation is included in the civil service, and to enter it is necessary to pass an examination requiring at least an academic education; there is also a strict physical examination, and the standard in this is higher than that required to enter our army or navy. When the appointment is received a clerk is given a scheme of distribution of all the postoffices in some State, meaning that he is to learn and remember the location of each postoffice, be it on a railroad or stage route, and at regular intervals he is

### WHERE WE MEET

There should be a strong bond of interest between us; so that we may understand each other better, that you may recognize the splendid services we are giving and will continue to provide you with, and that you will insist on the efficiency of that service being maintained. Railway postal clerks are divided into nine classes with annual salaries ranging from \$800 to \$1,600 and the average salary is at present \$1,152. We are required to pay out of this our expenses on the road, which, economized as we may, amount to about \$150 annually, leaving net salary around \$1,000. We maintain that this amount is less, much less, than we earn, and we have been trying for some time to have Congress make us an allowance for expenses while on duty. In all other departments of the government and elsewhere in our own department, expenses while away from domicile or headquarters, are paid clerks and officers, and the principle is universally recognized in the business world. We seem to be the only exception and we ask to have it remedied. We ask for actual expenses rather than a raise in salary, because there is so much difference in expenses of clerks on different lines and in different parts of the country that such an allowance will equalize salaries and give every one a "square deal."

Our department, the head of which is the Second Assistant Postmaster General, recognizing the justice of this claim, made recommendations to Congress last winter along these lines and the Senate placed an item in the postoffice appropriation bill providing for the expense of railway postal clerks, but it failed ultimately of enactment and we are asking that it be allowed the coming session of Congress. Business men, individually, and through their strong commercial bodies, can help us; we ask you. You are interested in having the best railway mail service possible, and we will try to give it to you; but yes, realize that efficiency goes with expense, so help us to make our lot a comfortable one that we may cheerfully and gladly give you the best we have, realizing our efforts are recognized and appreciated.

J. T. CANFIELD, President, Railway Mail Association, Syracuse, New York.

Reidsville Citizens in Favor of Sewerage System.

Special to The Observer.

Reidsville, Nov. 23.—Citizens of the town met in mass meeting at the town hall last night to discuss the question of a sewerage system for Reidsville. City Engineer Handy, of Greensboro, was present and addressed the meeting, explaining every detail of sewerage and saying that Reidsville was badly in need of a system. Several gentlemen made short talks favoring an election for bonds for this needed improvement, and resolutions were unanimously passed that it was the sense of the meeting that petitions be circulated among the citizens of the town for signatures early as practicable. Permission was obtained from the last Legislature for the privilege of voting bonds for this purpose. Reidsville is the largest town in the State without sewerage, but it now seems certain that by next session this defect will be remedied.

called for examination on that State until he is able to give exactly such location of all offices. Then he is given another State to learn, and this process is continued until he acquires perfect knowledge of the location of from 3,000 to 15,000 postoffices in different States, the knowledge of number of offices varying on account of location of his run or line of railroad upon which his assignment places him. He has to know, also, the railroad time-tables or schedules of the States he distributes mail for; and as these are constantly changing, it is necessary to be eternally vigilant. There are frequent changes in his schemes of distribution which he receives weekly, new postoffices established, others discontinued and still others have changes of supply, requiring the unlearning of things once learned as well as constant acquisition of new information.

EFFICIENCY.

It takes about four years of this sort of study accompanied by steady work in the postal car to make a good clerk out of the recruit; and then one has to always keep up the grind so long as he remains in the service; there is never any cessation of either study or work. On all the heavier lines we are granted regular lay-off periods for recuperation and study; but our time belongs wholly to the government and we are liable for call for extra duty at any time. Now about the efficiency of the service. Ninety per cent. of the mail matter originating in this country and a very large amount (millions of pieces) from foreign countries is handled in railway mail cars by railway postal clerks with one error to each 15,000 pieces handled—18,000 specific acts with one error, and many of these errors mean but a few minutes, or possibly no delay to the letter or paper. Our examinations show an average of nearly 93 per cent correct all over the country, and in some divisions they have not been below that figure in the last fifteen years; and we are examining the 3,000 postoffices annually, also upon the postal laws and regulations.

PERSONAL RISK.

There is some hazard connected with the service. During the last fiscal year there being one out of every eighteen killed or injured. Congress makes some provision for this, however, in that the family of a clerk killed while on duty receives \$1,000; and a clerk injured while on duty, where his own carelessness is not responsible, receives his regular salary during continuation of injury up to one year. This hazard, however, is incidental to the occupation, and is not considered in the acceptance or filling of a position in the service. But we are constantly asking for good cars and appliances in order to reduce the mortality to as low a point as possible. Our department officials are continually insisting upon strong cars, and with some success; but many railroads are slow in furnishing the best equipment, notwithstanding they receive an annual rental and mail pay about \$4,000 for each car.

YOUR CONNECTION.

First-class postage pays 73 per cent of the postal revenues of this country; consequently the business men who pay most of this should be interested in the railway mail service which handles 90 per cent of their mail; but as a matter of fact they are not interested, which is shown by the lack of information they exhibit in the subject. It is our object to get them interested; because they are mainly our employers; that is, they pay the charges for our service, though having little or no-