

A Virginia Poetess.

Editor of The News-Herald: Sir—A new claimant for public favor is "The Giant of the Blue Ridge and other Poems," by Mrs. Mary Buckner Spiers...

The minor poems reveal a richness of fancy, a warmth of passion in the only entries and his interest of the reader, but compels the confession that the author is a metrist of no inferior skill.

Though she often ignores metrical form and measure, and her harp seems untuned and discordant, yet at times there comes across its strings a soft and beautiful music.

The Giant of the Blue Ridge, while lacking in plot, is a strong, striking story, full of devotion, pathos and tragedy. Its author was specially happy in its location, the mountains of Virginia.

Don Heiskel is a typical wealthy and cultured villager, perhaps, by a groundless and insane jealousy. His wife, Lyra, pure as she is fair, first met Ike Huff, the real giant, at his blacksmith shop and shortly thereafter he becomes her rescuer and avenger.

Illiterate Ike inherited the strength of the hills and the purity of their streams and is among the uncrowned kings of earth. Bold and fearless, gentle and manly, he loved his mother and honored his God.

Lord Brougham, I think it was, when defending a scholarly man for forgery, and railing against the evils of education, quoted the blacksmith's well known verse:

"Thank God, no child of mine, E'er knew how to write a line."

Ike was evidently one of his descendants, and strange as it may seem, was a "teetotaler" in that native home of "mountain dew."

"Wheaten hocke, light as foam, Peculiar to this highland home, The cabin had a quaintest charm Theucured eye to please, disarm; With bronze-green herb and pepper red The clumsy wall was draped and bed."

At times the author seems covered with clouds and darkness, yet when charity comes and the clouds and darkness pass away, how glorious the golden glow of the sun-kissed hills, how rich the shimmering sheen of velvet valleys!

Occasionally there is striving after strange and unknown words, which always mars. At times the language is out of proportion to the strength of the thoughts and the ideas diluted to extreme tenuity. However, the diction is fine, the pathos tender, the imagination brilliant, and the insight into the strength and weakness of human nature is keen.

Stripped of occasional vagueness, obscurity and weirdness we are impressed with the sustaining strength of the poem and enjoy the richness of its mingled melody.

Whatever its defects if once read, it will be read again because of an indescribable something, which often confounds, yet ever charms. The book should at least appeal to Virginians and North Carolinians.

Mr. Spiers, now deceased, was a native of and well known in eastern North Carolina as a man of high probity and intelligence. Mrs. Spiers was a Miss Mary Buckner, of Culpeper, Va. She comes from a race of distinguished men and brilliant women, and is herself a woman of broad culture and most gracious courtesy.

The book is dedicated to her beautiful and accomplished daughters, Misses Mary Dandridge and Helen Strother Spiers.

CHARLES F. MCKESSON, Morganton, N. C., October 3, 1903.

WEEKLY CROP BULLETIN.

For Week Ending Monday, October 5, 1903.

Correspondence of The News-Herald.

The past week has been very dry with practically no rain whatever except a very small amount at a few widely separated places.

The drought is injuring all late crops considerably, especially turkeys, fall Irish potatoes, crimson clover and early seeded rye and wheat.

Small streams are low and there is a scarcity of water in some sections. The temperature was slightly above normal, as the days were moderately warm; the nights were generally cool, and some frost occurred in the mountains.

While the lack of moisture is affecting late seeded crops adversely, and the ground has become too hard and dry for the continuation of fall plowing, otherwise conditions were very favorable for gathering matured crops and for all farm work.

Very little plowing has been done, and only small quantities of winter wheat and oats were seeded during the week.

Cotton is opening very rapidly, with weather conditions favorable for picking, which is progressing rapidly; the cool nights have injured the top crop; in many fields in the south cotton is all open; the estimate is that nearly half the cotton has already been picked, and the yield is undoubtedly short.

Gathering late corn has advanced well; some late corn has been injured by lack of sufficient moisture. Tobacco has all been safely housed, except in a few sections in the northwestern part of the State.

Digging peanuts and sweet potatoes are underway, with fairly good yields. Most of the pea vine hay crop, nearly all of the fodder and other forage crops have been housed under favorable conditions.

Clover and turkeys are being much injured by drought. Some wheat and oats were seeded during the week, but cannot come up without rain.

Porter, Va. reports that the northeast part of the State. N. B.—As the staple crops are now practically beyond the influence of weather conditions, this is the last crop bulletin for the season of 1903.

REMARKS BY CROP CORRESPONDENTS. WESTERN DISTRICT.—Patterson, Caldwell: Light frost on the 28th, no damage; still very dry; fodder pulling over; a large quantity of forage saved; pea-vine hay being cut now; sweet potato crop fair.—J. L. Miller.

Pioneer Mills, Cabarrus: Fine weather for picking cotton and for fall mowing; turkeys need rain; corn maturing well and rapidly; cotton about one half opened and gathered.—Jno. A. Barnhart.

Bearwallow, Henderson: Weather warm with cool nights; fodder pulling about over; everything suffering for want of rain.—C. C. Outen.

Old Fort, McDowell: No rain or frost this week; cool nights and some days very warm; most of the fodder saved; sorghum syrup being made to limited extent.—C. C. Lindley.

Denver, Lincoln: Very dry and cool; cotton opening fast and will not be more than half a crop; fodder and hay about all saved.—F. S. Kide.

Statesville, Iredell: Dry and moderately warm; fine weather for saving pea-vine hay; greatest portion of the forage crop saved, except late corn; very little plowing done.—Jacob Bostian.

Pilot Mountain, Surry: Weather still very dry and very little fall plowing done; some wheat sown; turkeys good; rain needed.—W. H. Stephens.

G. F. VON HERMANN, Raleigh, N. C., October 5, 1903.

Judge Bynum's Gift to the University.

Chapel Hill Special, 2d, to Charlotte Chronicle.

Ex Judge W. P. Bynum, of Charlotte, has donated to the University of North Carolina the sum of \$25,000 for the erection of a gymnasium at the institution.

The announcement was made this morning by President F. P. Venable at the conclusion of the exercises in the chapel, and was received with great enthusiasm, as this magnificent gift fills a long felt want at the University. Judge Bynum makes the donation as a memorial to his grandson, W. P. Bynum, Jr., who died during the vacation following his sophomore year here.

A LOVE LETTER. Would not interest you if you're looking for a guaranteed Salve for Sores, Burns or Piles. Otto Dodd, of Ponder, Mo., writes: "I suffered with an ugly sore for a year, but a box of Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured me. It's the best Salve on earth. 25c at John Tull's and W. A. Leslie's Drug Store."

For a pleasant physic take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets.

Easy to take. Pleasant in effect. For sale by W. A. Leslie, Druggist.

SALE OF LAND.

By virtue of an order of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Burke county made and entered in a certain special proceeding there in pending entitled M. A. Huffman against Max Huffman and others, I will, as commissioner, expose to sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, at the Court House door in the town of Morganton, N. C., on Monday, the 2nd day of November, A. D. 1903, between the legal hours of sale, the following described tracts or parcels of land, to-wit: Lying and being in the county of Burke and State of North Carolina, adjoining the lands of Wesley Walker, Newberry Frost (now F. A. Carwell) and others, bounded as follows: viz: First Tract—Beginning on a white-oak and runs south 90 poles to a stake; then west 40 poles to a hickory in the edge of the bottom; then south 40 poles to a post-oak on a ridge; then west 50 poles, crossing the creek, to a stake; then north 110 poles to a hickory; then east with said (Carwell) line, crossing said creek to the beginning. Second Tract—Lying on the waters of Roper's Mill creek, beginning on a hickory on a steep hill-side, and runs east 40 poles to a hickory near a small branch; then south 100 poles to a pine on a hill-side near a branch; then west 80 poles to a stake; then north 100 poles to the beginning. Third Tract—Beginning on a white-oak, and runs east 30 poles to two oak bushes in (Wesley) Walker's line; then south 100 poles with Walker's line to his chestnut corner; then west 30 poles to a stake in his own line; then north 100 poles to the beginning, containing (in the three tracts) one hundred and nineteen (119) acres, more or less.

Said land sold for partition among the tenants in common. This the 1st day of October, A. D. 1903. J. B. BUNGARNER, Commissioner. AVERY & IRVIN, Attorneys.

Come to Our Clothing Store

The New Display of the Fall and Winter Lines in MEN'S, BOYS' and CHILDREN'S CLOTHING Is Now Ready for Your Inspection.

Advertisement for clothing store featuring illustrations of men in suits and text: "Our stock includes the entire field of fashion. There is not a single new style missing which has received the sanction of well dressed men, and the assortment of materials, patterns and colors is equally comprehensive."

Every Taste, Whim and Fancy Can Be Satisfied Here.

Whether it's a single-breasted or a double breasted you want, you can find no fault with these Suits, even from the cheapest up. High-class tailoring is most plainly seen in the splendid Suits at \$7.50, \$10.00, \$12.50, \$15.00 and \$17.50. Notice how the shoulders conform to the figure, how the collar and lapels nestle close and snug, how the whole garment of the garments has a well-groomed, most genteel look. Clothing tailored in such a manner is best calculated to hold its good looks longest.

If you "overcoat" this Fall and Winter in garments selected from our \$7.50, \$10.00, \$12.50 and \$15.00 lines you'll be "right in it." These Overcoats cannot be duplicated anywhere for the same price.

Men's Fine \$17.50 Black Unfinished Worsteds Suits at \$12.50.

In order that your visit may be one long to be remembered, we shall, for one week, sell these rich and handsome Unfinished Worsteds Suits—suits that any clothier in the land would ask and get \$17.50 for at least—at \$12.50, and you can pick the style you fancy in either single or double-breasted. You'd not find better tailoring in the highest priced suit you can buy; they're a big special and should and will bring a large and enthusiastic response at the unheard of price of..... \$12.50

WE CAN SETTLE YOUR HAT QUESTION.

The KNOX-ALL Derbys and Soft Hats at \$2.00 have more style, more quality, more true worth to them than any Hats at or near their price.

LAZARUS BROS.

TAILOR-MADE Skirts and Cloaks.

In our Skirt Department you will find the newest designs, most desirable patterns, the leading colors in plain and mixed Suitings and Skirtings. The correct set and flare.

Prices that Will Please Your Sense of Economy.

WE WILL BE GLAD TO SHOW YOU COATS AND JACKETS IN TO-DAY. THE NEW SHAPES, THE BEST LENGTHS, ALL HANDSOMELY TAILORED.

See the Military, the Clerical, the Dress.

I. I. DAVIS & SON.

Advertisement for I. I. Davis & Son featuring illustrations of women in dresses and text: "Cures Constipation, Indigestion, Blood, Kidney and Liver Diseases. At all druggists, 10c., 25c., 50c., per box. Write for free samples." Also includes "Chestnut Wood Wanted!" and "FOR SALE—One Bass Drum, latest model. Will be sold at a bargain. Apply to J. R. McGrath, Morganton, N. C."

SAW DUST IN STREAMS.

The attention of the people is called to an act of the last Legislature which says that "Any person who shall discharge or waste any sawdust, or who shall knowingly suffer any sawdust to be placed, discharged or wasted by his servants or employes, in the waters of Upper Creek or Steel's Creek, or their tributaries above Joy, in Burke county, or in Linville River or its tributaries above the Beach Bottoms in Burke county to its source in Mitchell county, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not less than fifty dollars or imprisoned in the county jail for not less than three months, and, in addition, shall be liable to a penalty of twenty-five dollars for each day he places, discharges or wastes, or knowingly suffers sawdust to be placed, discharged and wasted in said streams within the boundaries aforesaid, to be paid to any person who may sue for the same. And each day sawdust is discharged or wasted in the streams aforesaid shall constitute a new offense punishable as aforesaid."

We are sorry that all the streams in the county are not included in this act. The sawdust not only exterminates fish but becomes a menace to the health of the people living along the streams; besides it pollutes the water, which undoubtedly proves injurious to horses, cattle and all stock that drink it.

We trust that the law quoted above will be rigidly enforced. We understand that there is already an indictment against a mill man in the Jonas Ridge section, and there will be others if violations of this law continue.

VICTORY AGAINST SALOONS.

Raleigh Votes for a Dispensary—The Ladies Prayed at Church While the Men Worked at the Poles.

A victory, sweeping and decisive, was won yesterday by the Anti-Saloon forces of Raleigh. The contest has waged hotter and hotter during the past two weeks, and both sides claimed a victory even after the polls had opened.

The liquor men had for the past four days been giving out that they had the victory and that their majority would be 268. The Anti-Saloon forces on the other hand stated that they would surely win, and this by a majority in the neighborhood of 400 votes.

The saloon vote failed to materialize and it showed that the estimates of the Anti-Saloon forces were based upon actual facts in their possession while the saloon vote was a "hoped for" affair, the figment of optimistic and roseate lined dreams.

The vote for dispensaries was 377, while that against dispensaries and in favor of the saloons was 483, giving the Anti-Saloon forces a clear majority of 194 votes, six short of the highest figure ever given out by any worker against the saloons.

The victory, one that thoroughly delights the temperance element of the capital city is not one that came without hard work. For weeks meeting after meeting has been held and the importance of the election has been presented to the people. On Sunday in various churches in the city the final word was said that led up to the glorious victory of yesterday.

It was a day of work for the men and a day of prayer for the women. While the men were actively and earnestly working for a majority for the temperance forces many ladies went to the Presbyterian church and offered prayer in behalf of the effort being made to close the saloons in Raleigh.

That the saloon forces were surprised is putting it mildly, for many had felt certain of victory. At noon yesterday it began to dawn upon them they had encountered defeat, and before two o'clock numbers of the leaders acknowledged that they were defeated by at least a hundred majority, while the Anti-Saloon forces declared it would exceed 150.

\$100 Reward, \$100. The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer \$100 for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, Sold by druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

FROM LOWER FORK.

An Academy to be Established at the "County Corners"—Death of Mrs. P. F. Buff—Other News.

Correspondence of The News-Herald. Rev. P. F. Buff's wife, Naomi Buff, who has been ill for the last twelve months, died Saturday, Oct. 3rd. Also, her grandchild, Max York's child, died in the same house on the same day, and they were both buried Sunday at Mt. Gilead church. Rev. W. B. Mull conducted the funeral services.

The Catawba River Association convenes at Mt. Gilead church on Thursday, Oct. 8th, 1903.

The people of Burke, Cleveland, Catawba and Lincoln counties met at the "County Corners" and laid off a boundary for a school, taking a part of the four counties. A good sum was raised by private subscription for the building of the Academy, with more promised. The boards of education of the four counties will be asked to give this boundary so they can get the public money, and if they do this the school is assured; the building site to be at the "County Corners." At the close of the meeting M. L. White, of Polkville, better known as "Corn Cracker," made a fine educational speech for the encouragement of the school. The meeting adjourned to meet Oct. 24th, everybody invited to attend.

The overseers of the public roads of this township are putting the roads in good condition, which speaks well for them.

LOWER FORK SUBSCRIBER. Oct. 6, 1903.

Raymond's Relief is a cure for Neuralgia, Toothache, Cramps and the like that we can recommend to all our customers. Try a 25c bottle. All dealers. Try a 25c bottle.

Our Best Hat Advertisements

Appear on the Heads of Our Customers.

Advertisement for The Nox-All Hat featuring an illustration of a man in a hat and text: "PROFIT by the experience of over three hundred thousand satisfied men: buy a Haves three dollar hat why pay five?"

No man looks just right without a becoming Hat. No matter how stylish the clothing he wears, to top it out he must have a Hat that's up-to-date.

When a man wants real style, good value and absolute satisfaction in a Hat, he comes here for it.

We sell Hats that bring a man back again and again.

That's why we have such a fast hold on the very best trade.

B. F. Davis, The Clothier.

AUCTION SALE OF MULES, FARMING UTENSILS, ETC., SATURDAY, OCT. 24TH.

On the above date, at the home of the late T. H. McNeely, in Lower Creek township, I will offer at public sale One pair of Mules, 4 years old and matches. One two-horse Wagon. Double set Wagon Harness. Plow Gears. One Disc Harrow. One Drag Harrow. One two-horse Chattanooga Plow. One two-horse Dixie Plow, and other plows and farming utensils.

One Revolving Feed Cutter. One Milch Cow, 6 years old. One Yearling, 2 years old. Some Carpenter Tools and Household Goods.

J. H. McNEELY.

A FOUNTAIN PEN MADE BY WATERMAN FOR ONE DOLLAR

ONE DOLLAR FOR ONE DOLLAR. It has no equal for the price. GAITHER'S BOOK STORE. FRESH GANDY.