

# The Lenoir Tonic

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STATESVILLE, NEW YORK.

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**CLINTON A. CILLEY,**  
Attorney-At-Law,  
Lenoir, N. C.  
Practice in All The Courts.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, July 2.

To the Editor of The Lenoir Tonic:

During the week the wily Senator from Vermont has shown more than a usual tendency towards new departures. There have been occasional Edmunds sensations at the Capitol ever since the Senator's ambition turned squarely towards the White House, but three freaks in the same week are something extraordinary.

In the first place Mr. Edmunds created a real sensation by appearing in the galleries of the Senate Chamber as the escort of a bridal couple from his state. He was never seen with a plain, quiet constituent before, and it was regarded as positive proof that his fences are rickety this time, and that his Senatorial contest is real. Very few Senators dare to ignore the claims made upon them by their constituents as Edmunds has done, but he has never had any real opposition to his re-election until now. He sat by this honeymoon couple for quite a while, pointed out to them the various Senators, and even graciously explained to them some of the features of the debate, while the Senators on the floor exchanged significant glances over his unparalleled devotion.

Mr. Edmunds' next new departure was the new attitude he assumed on the subject of the Senate's jurisdiction over the President's nominations to office, and his suspensions and removals from office. He introduced a bill in the Senate which proposes to give the President absolute power to make all the appointments to office which now he can make only by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. According to this bill the Senate is to have nothing whatever to do in the future with either appointments or removals. There will be no more need for executive sessions, either secret or open.

The Senator created a third sensation by objecting to a second reading of the joint resolution, which had previously passed the House, to provide for the expenditures of the Government for the next ten days following the last day of June, end of the fiscal year. This caused an unusual outlook for the first day of the fiscal year, and the Executive Departments opened in consequence on the first day of July without funds for the payment of any of their employees.

"This is an unprecedented emergency, so far as I know," said U. S. Treasurer Jordan. No new business of any kind can be done, and unless action can be taken before the end of July, no Government official, not even the President, can get his month's salary. Senator Edmunds' purpose was to emphasize and call public attention to the repeated failures of appropriation bills to reach the Senate in time for the deliberation and seasonable action before the end of the fiscal year, a purpose which is approved by both the Democrats and Republicans of the Senate.

Under the law which forbids any Department to expend money in any fiscal year in excess of appropriations, or to involve the Government in any contract for the future payment of money in excess of appropriations, it is questionable whether the heads of Departments have the right to accept the services of their employees with an understanding that they are to be compensated when Congress makes the appropriation. The question never came up before, but it is probable the Senate will at once pass the emergency resolution passed by the House and all will be right again.

The vetoing of pension bills has met with almost unanimous approval from the Democrats in Congress, the only criticisms coming from the Republicans. The President has been attacked by Republicans in both houses of Congress during the week for what they call violations of his civil service pretensions. Senator Hoar made quite a vituperative speech and Ingalls, of Kansas, attempted, as usual, high flown sarcasm.

This led Senator Cookrell, of Mo., to reply that the taunts fell harmless. The Administration needed no defender in the Senate. The people of the United States would live to bend their knees in thankfulness that Grover Cleveland had become President. He was an honest, brave, true man and he was doing all that any one mortal being could do to give the people an honest, fearless, economical and constitutional Administration. In fact Senator Hoar declared that President Cleveland had not attempted to keep the pledges which preceded and followed his election. He thought his promotion of party and partisan interests had been equal to that of Van Buren and Pierce.

People going on excursion are so happy to get home that they are glad they went.

The President may be relied on to stop all such jobs that he can get his mind on, but the place where they should be stopped is at the doors of the Capitol.

The late John F. Ferguson.

To the Editor of The Lenoir Tonic:

Another one of our aged citizens has dropped out; John F. Ferguson, long known as "Brick house Jack." He was born near the place of his life-long home, in Wilkes county, near the mouth of Beaver Creek, on the 6th of May, 1779, and died at his residence on the 1st day of July, 1885. He was married to Elander Triplett on the 4th of March, 1830, and they became the parents of 9 children, 6 sons and 3 daughters. Two sons died when young, and two died soldiers in the late war, T. L. Ferguson, Capt. of Co. C., 26th N. C. T., and John F. Ferguson, Jr., of the 18th Regiment. Capt. J. T. Ferguson, now of Wilkesboro, and Capt. L. C. Ferguson, of Yellow Hill, N. C., and the 2 daughters, Mrs. Spicer, Mrs. Bradley and Mrs. Howell are all well known to the community.

He was one of this generation's best men. He began life with small means, and he and his devoted helpmeet, with the help of their children as they grew up, succeeded by dint of close work and honest economy so that closing up his estate, being his own administrator, he was able to give all his living children \$3,000 each.

Once in his life, being security to Sheriff Dyer, who failed, he was compelled to pay on his bond a large sum, and for a while the clouds of adversity hung heavily over this dear family, but they paid out and kept the colors of honesty aloft. At the close of the war they again suffered heavily, being robbed of stock and other valuables plundered. Such was his life and conduct through all this long experience that it has been a common remark, "Uncle Jack has no enemies."

He never sought or held office, but gave his attention to farm and home life, and thousands have shared his generous hospitalities, who still remember it with gratitude. He was a noble specimen of manhood physically; mentally, he was above the average. His judgment was deliberate and far-reaching, and his manners at home and abroad, were kind and obliging.

This noble man professed faith in Christ at about the age of 20, and remarked that a short time before his death, that he had been trying to live a christian life for nearly 70 years. For many years he was a member of the Baptist church, but some ten years since he withdrew and connected himself with the Second Advent church, at Beaver Creek, heartily endorsing the doctrine of immortality through Christ alone. In his last hours, while suffering was heavy upon him he frequently said he wanted to fall asleep till the resurrection. He was so liberal with his means in support of the gospel, that many years ago he was nicknamed the "Commissary."

Sometimes at the larger religious convocations he would entertain a hundred people or more with their horses. It was often remarked of him when asked for contributions for religious purposes that "Uncle Jack cares less for five dollars than any man in the land."

The days of his mortal probation have ended and he sleeps in the embrace of death till the key-holder, (Rev. 1:18), shall come, when, according to his faith, he will rise immortal, to die no more, Luke 20:36.

He was buried July 2nd in the presence of a large congregation, who, notwithstanding the high waters, had gathered to bend their sympathies with this beloved family and hear the burial discourse, in which the writer was assisted by Elder Joel Brown. G. D. S.

A Card to Teachers.

RUTHERFORD COLLEGE, July 1.

To the Editor of The Lenoir Tonic:

There will be a Normal School opened at Rutherford College, on Wednesday the 21st of July, to continue till 18th of August. In this Normal nothing will be taught except what is taught in the public schools at N. C., such as Kellogg's Grammar, Geography, common school Arithmetic, Algebra, History and Physiology. Daily lessons will be given in pedagogics, and teachers of every aptness will be prepared to obtain first grade certificates during the time. No primaries or preps will be received. Tuition charges will be 10 cents per day, and 20 to 25 cents per day for board. Teachers can attend by the day, a longer or shorter time at same rates.

Lessons will be given in Book-keeping, Penmanship and Telegraphy to any who may desire it, at very moderate prices. This will be a most excellent chance for all who will accept it.

The regular college exercises will open on the 1st day of September, with some new additional professors. We are in correspondence with a graduate of Columbia College, N. Y., for Prof. of Mathematics. R. L. ABERNETHY Pres't.

The thing for revenue reformers to keep in mind is the fact that there are about ten more men wanted in Congress to secure tariff revision and tax reduction. The Democrats have the matter all in their own hands.

In Memoriam.

To the Editor of The Lenoir Tonic:

Mrs. L. C. Isbell departed this life May 20th, 1886, at the residence of her son, James Isbell Esq., in Caldwell County, N. C. She was born December 19th 1810, and was the daughter of the late Eli Petty, deceased, of Wilkes county. She was married to the late Thomas Isbell deceased, of Caldwell county, August 19th 1829.

It is natural and proper at times, to bear testimony to worth of character and pay tribute to the memory of a sincere christian, but when in the orderings of Providence we realize in its full sense the beauty and excellence of a consistent life crowned with old age hid "with Christ in God," we do well to praise and listen to his teachings.

The deceased made a profession of faith in Christ and joined the Baptist church early in life, of which she remained a consistent member during all the remainder of her life. Her faith was always firm; realizing that she was in the care of a dear Savior, no trouble, no suffering could shake her exalted trust. The nearer the cloud of death approached and the further earthly things fell away from her, the brighter her hopes of a glorious future became.

By nature gentle and refined, she enjoyed the respect and confidence of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. She was true to all, and her home life showed the sincerity of her christian character. Since it is the work of life to learn how to die, so from the death of every true christian we, who are left behind, receive a lesson how to live. To those who knew her well, the death of our departed friend has been such a lesson. Many years ago she was called to part with him who had been so long the partner of her joy and sorrow, this great trial she bore with great submission to God's will. She retained her powers mentally and physically in a remarkable degree, and was confined before her death but a few days. When the supreme moment came however, with loving words to all about her, in full faith, as if inspired by a vision of the bright beyond, she passed sweetly to everlasting life and to the eternal rest which remaineth for the people of God.

"Oh glorious end of life's long day of sadness,  
Oh blessed course, so well and nobly run,  
Oh home of true and everlasting gladness,  
Oh crown unfading and so richly won."

Deceased was the mother of seven children, three sons and four daughters, four of whom passed her in life's race, and had already gone under the vale of death before their mother. She leaves three children, eighteen grand children and one great grand child to mourn their loss. To them all and to her many friends we extend sympathies, and hope we may so live that we may meet her in the glory land where sorrow never comes, and parting is unknown. Weep not then dear friends, your mother is not lost, but gone before. Remember the words of one of God's servants, in which he says, "To die is gain."

Sister Isbell was noted through all her life for her hospitality. No true servant of Christ ever failed to find a hearty welcome at her pleasant home, and no true object of charity was ever turned from her door without food. She is gone but her works do follow. W. A. Pool.

Now General Lee Courted Death.

From a Washington Letter.

Mr. Reagan gives me a new fact in General Lee's history which is not generally known in the North. He said that toward the close of the downfall of the Confederate Government there was a very general impression among the high officials of the Confederacy that General Lee intended to lose his life on the field of battle. The impression was shared by the officers of Lee's army. General Lee never lost an opportunity of placing himself in a position of danger. General Reagan says that he drove out from Richmond to see Lee upon the day the principal battle of Cold Harbor was fought. As he came up near where he could see Lee's headquarters he saw the shells bursting continually around his tent and plunging up the ground in front of him. Some of the officers asked Mr. Reagan to move and persuade General Lee to move his headquarters behind a piece of timber near by. All felt that he was exposing his life too much. Mr. Reagan said to General Lee: "I do not presume to advise any general in the midst of a battle, but are you not exposing yourself too much? Ought you not to go back nearer your reserve?" General Lee said he had no reserve. He had only one line of men. He did not dare to shorten his line for fear it would be broken. General Lee evidently sought death many times during the closing days of the war. That was the view of the Southern leaders then and is still believed by many.

Beecher in Europe.

Elizabeth City Economist.

Henry Ward Beecher, of Plymouth Church, has been a phenomenal sensation for thirty years and has been through moral cyclones that would have blown any other man's character to atoms, and yet to-day he is more observed of men, and observed by many with admiration, than any other man not in elevated official position. He is a striking illustration of the great mastery of mind and the homage to mystery. He is an intellectual giant, with more absolute originality of thought and great mental power than any other man in America. A great thinker, one who grapples the most profound subjects in every department of human investigation and throws upon them a flood of intellectual light that startles by its originality. Such a man necessarily becomes a leader among men when he adds to his rare gifts the courage of conviction that shrinks from no responsibility. All these characteristics Mr. Beecher has in a most eminent degree and they make up the man.

And now he goes to Europe, nominally, for rest and recreation, but really to gratify his insatiable ambition of popular admiration, which craves another sensational chapter of fame by appearing upon the hustings in England to stand by "the grand old man" and to defend Home Rule before the English people. It will indeed be a new field for Beecher a broader field than he has ever appeared in, and in which the world of two continents will be his interested audience, a field of observation before which Plymouth Church sinks into insignificance. He will appear before the great English speaking race in a matter on which every man is wrought up to the high pitch of intense excitement and Henry Ward Beecher will be the central figure of the gladiatorial drama. Surely if he acquires himself with customary ability it will be a fitting climax to his great fame.

His presentment, or his pretended presentment is that he will never more appear in the pulpit of Plymouth Church. He is now an old man, considerably beyond the scriptural limit of three score and ten years, and at that period,

"The spider's most attenuated thread is cord, is cable,  
To man's tender tie on earthly bliss."

Of Interest to Business Men and Others.

We acknowledge the receipt of a new publication, entitled "The Law in North Carolina of Notes and Drafts," published by Messrs. Edwards, Broughton & Co., Raleigh, N. C. M. N. Amis, Esq., well known to the legal fraternity as the author of "The N. C. Criminal Code and Digest," and Col. J. A. Williamson, of the law firm of Coke & Williamson, Raleigh, are the authors. The work is designed for business men and others who may have occasion to handle notes and drafts and contains much valuable information concerning these subjects. Among the more important features of the book are the law concerning the statute of limitations, or, when a note "runs out of date," what will prevent its so running, how it may be made good after out of date, &c. Forms of every kind of notes and drafts are contained in the work. The business man will find this a valuable book. Sent postpaid on receipt of price, 50 cents. Address the publishers, Messrs. Edwards, Broughton & Co., Raleigh, N. C.

Our Bakersville Letter.

BAKERSVILLE, July 1.

To the Editor of The Lenoir Tonic:

Owing to so much rain a great many corn fields look like a pasture. It is raining now and rains more or less nearly every day.

Harvest is best and farmers are doing the best they can between showers. Small grain is blown down considerably and must be saved with the reaper-hook. Wheat is generally very good.

We have had two exhibition in Bakersville within a few weeks. Prof. Bettis and Stafford closed June 4. As I was at Globe commencement I cannot give any of the proceedings. I hear it was decidedly a success. They will open fall term August 1.

The court house was beautifully decorated again June 18. We built a stage and in front of the Judge's stand was a mound covered with moss and beautifully decorated with flowers, for the exhibition of Prof. Freeland's school. Our quarterly examination commenced Friday before the exhibition and lasted 4 days. On Thursday we decorated the court house, so we only lost one day of study for the exhibition which was pronounced the most successful ever known in Bakersville. Friday morning was devoted to the salutatory compositions and declamations, opened and closed with instrumental and vocal music by the school.

The evening services were the same as morning. All the exercises were interspersed by music from the string band including the fiddle, Mr. Bright, of Tenn. Prof. R. L. Patton was requested by the principal

to deliver an educational address but he declined.

The largest audience ever assembled in the court house was Friday night, which was interestingly entertained by a concert and valedictory, interspersed with music by the band. The exhibition closed by the school singing the song "Good-bye." Prof. Freeland will also open school the first Monday in August.

And by the way, June 24 was St. John's day and the court house and stage was again beautifully decorated for the Masonic celebration.

After the Masonic march they marched into the court house and were seated on the rostrum in general order for initiation of officers. A Masonic address was expected to be delivered by Hon. Alfred A. Taylor, of Tenn, but he failed to come. We don't know the cause unless it was that he was nominated for Governor by the Republican party of Tenn. and forgot it. A very interesting address was delivered by Prof. Freeland and a short talk by Mr. W. S. Hyams.

Mr. J. C. Bowman has been teaching at Roan Mountain school house, but has stopped now, as the citizens of the community are becoming so much interested in education and stirred to a sense of their duty, as they know the rising generation must be educated, they will meet Saturday to make arrangements to build an Academy, dimensions 40x64 feet and two stories.

Mrs. J. M. Stafford, who has been afflicted so long, for the first time in nearly a year, has gained physical strength enough to walk 30 yards last Sunday morning to Sunday School but her physical strength would not permit her to stay during all the exercises. It is hoped by all she will soon recover and enjoy good health again.

Rev. Mr. Macomson, the blind preacher of Burke church, preached in the Baptist church last night and will preach again to-night.

The evangelist, Rev. Mr. Woodson, of Va., who preached during court, returned last evening. I suppose he will conduct a series of meetings at this place.

The finger of Mr. Wesley Young, of Little Rock Creek, which was bitten by a Mr. Sheet a few days since in a skirmish terminated in amputation a few days ago. It was amputated at the first joint in the hand.

Bob Pritchard, of Toe River, who is confined in jail, attempted to burn the jail. He tried to keep Mr. Quinn, the jailor, back by swearing he would kill the first man with a brick that attempted to come in there. Mr. Quinn rushed in and extinguished the fire, saved the jail and various other houses and probably a great damage.

There was an excursion from Johnson City, Tenn., to Shell Creek, Tenn., and from Cranberry to Shell Creek, last Sunday. The Methodist church at Shell Creek was dedicated.

They told me over there in Tenn. that one man plowed all day last Sunday was a week in order that he might free his corn of the weeds. He said it rained all week and he would plow when he could.

There are several persons seriously ill at Elk Park with flux.

Miss Jenny Penland, Mr. Dick Rorison, Clayton Gibbs, and George Heap returned from Weaver-ville College on the 18th of June. R. P. C.

Transylvania, N. C.

To the Editor of The Lenoir Tonic:

To persons who have never visited Transylvania, Henderson and those counties lying in the "land of the skies," a correct pen-picture of their soil, waters and sublime mountain scenery would appear as a Grecian fable.

From the junction of the Swannanoa and French Broad rivers for 50 or 60 miles up the French Broad, the rich bottom lands spreading out from hill to hill, cover a space of from one half to three miles in width. These fertile lands, though seemingly as level as a table, yet have a downward slope sufficient to carry off all the rain waters that fall upon them washing the soil. The fall of the French Broad is sufficient to carry its waters about four miles per hour; hence it very seldom overflows its banks.

Following the mail route from Asheville to Brevard, you pass nine postoffices in a distance of thirty-two miles, cross five or six creeks which would be called rivers on this side of the Ridge, and two or three large rapid rivers. These creeks and rivers afford vast bottoms of the richest lands; and, as they approach the French Broad, they expand into valleys that the eye can scarcely scan. These valleys are covered with corn, rye, oats and sometimes wheat, though wheat is less sown in this portion of the State than on the east side of the ridge. The land is wanting in potash, an element abundant in wheat.

There is no reason, however, that these farmers should not prepare their lands for wheat crops, as there is a lime vein running all along on the north side of French Broad from Asheville to the Balsam mountains. Eight or nine kilns can be seen from the road running from Asheville to Brevard.

The cones in these mountains are

covered with a luxuriant growth of ferns as tall as a man's waist, sometimes reaching to his neck and head. The soil is black mould so soft that a horse will mire up to his pastern in the woods. My friend and old pupil J. H. Mull raised a crop of fine tobacco in one of his coves, without a plow or horse in it. A man can go into these coves with an ox, kill the trees, and with a hoe he can raise finer corn than can be produced on the bottoms of Lower Creek.

The water power of these mountain counties is said by men of mechanical knowledge, to be sufficient to turn all the spindles of the State; and from what has come under my observation, I believe it. A thousand mountain streams not named by any one, dash down these ravines in all directions. Streams sufficiently strong to move the largest factories, pour down precipices from ten to thirty, and even hundreds of feet. Nature has so arranged these waters that dams are almost entirely unnecessary. The waters can be conveyed in trunks or troughs to a wheel at any distance below the falls. I saw one mill that stands on top of the falls, fastened in the rock, while a shaft reaches the rock below the falls where its buckets are struck by the falling waters through a pipe.

The mineral element in these mountains is rich, abundant and various. I examined a vein upon the lands of Joseph H. Mull, Esq., which contains gold, hornblende, silver, manganese, and corundum. The blossom of this vein runs across a large mountain. A shaft thirty feet deep finds no terminus to the ore.

All the country after you pass Asheville, up the French Broad, seems to be a new world. It appears to have been created at a later period than that on our side of the Ridge.

But, Mr. Editor, as I have promised to send few papers to THE TONIC upon the beauties and resources of this county, I must close now lest you exclude me next time even if this article come to light.

R. L. ABERNETHY.

A Tramp to Roan Mountain.

CLOUDLAND, July 2.

To the Editor of The Lenoir Tonic:

Something over two weeks ago I left Lenoir to spend a month or so at Blowing Rock, and while there to take a tramp through the mountains, partly for health, and partly for pleasure. Cloudland Hotel on the summit of Roan mountain was my objective point, and today after many a weary step, finds me here. While on my tramp I have visited quite a good many places of some interest to the mountain tourist.

Among some other places I have been to Grandfather, Banner Elk, Cranberry, Johnson City, and Roan Mountain Station, which is situated at the base of the Roan, and from which you take the hack for Cloudland, unless you are traveling in the manner in which I am, then you take the road. I left the station this morning at 8 o'clock, and came to the top of the mountain, a distance of twelve and a half miles in 4 1/2 hours.

When I got here I found the hotel, as its name imports, shrouded in the clouds, and to my great surprise, Mr. Editor, it rained nearly all evening. The view of course was entirely shut out. But to my great joy at 5 o'clock in the evening the clouds burst and cleared away, and the sun came out from his dismal abode and made the rising fog and drifting clouds present an hundred hues. I will not attempt to describe the scene that lay before me, presenting every variety of mountain scenery, from the most delicate flower and threadlike streamlet, to the cloud that lies in golden folds along the horizon of the setting sun and the lofty mountain summit that hides itself in the clouds. If I were to attempt to describe it, I would say that it is eminently grand.

The hotel is large, and has a capacity to accommodate 500 guests. It is built entirely of native balsam, except the window frames and ash which were brought from Minnesota. The top of the Roan is treeless and is set in grass which is from 4 to 6 inches high, affording pasturage for quite a large herd of horses and cattle. This pasture is 6 or 8 miles long, and is fenced by the timber line alone. The hotel table is supplied with beef from these cattle, and it is the fattest and sweetest meat in the world. The hotel is connected with the hotel at Roan Mountain Station by telephone, and you can converse with a friend 12 1/2 miles away. General Wilder, the proprietor, is absent on a business trip to Chattanooga, Tennessee, but his son-in-law, Mr. Stratton is acting in his place. He is accommodating, and pleasing in his manner, and immediately on arriving makes you feel quite at home.

I will remain all night and in the morning I will reluctantly take my leave; and I will say, in taking my departure, farewell, king of the Alleghanies, no mountain trip is complete without embracing thee!

TRAMP.

Forepaugh has leased Madison Square Garden, New York and will try to crowd out Barnum next year.