

Sylvan Valley News

Our County—Its Progress and Prosperity the First Duty of a Local Paper.

MINER & BREESE.

BREVARD, TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1903.

VOL. VIII—NO. 48

Dunns Rock Lodge No. 267

A. F. & A. M.

Meets Friday on or before the full moon in each month, at 2 p. m. Visiting Masons are cordially invited to meet with us.

sptly WM. MAXWELL, Sec'y.

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Plans and specifications on all kinds of building work.

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West Main Street near Caldwell.

Town Taxes.

The Tax List for the year 1903 of the Town of Brevard is now in my hands for collection. All tax payers are notified that the tax is now due and prompt payment will be enforced without favor.

J. A. BRYSON,
Town Tax Collector.

Improve Your Farm Methods.

More Crop and Less Acres—Better Care For Stock and Tools—
Better Roads, Etc.

It has been our privilege to visit well-to-do farmers in the north and west and our attention was called to some differences that exist between their methods and ours. The differences noted also explain several questions that continually arise in our minds and which need to be answered. One thought that is ever present when travelling in the northern states is "How do the farmers make a living?" Their seasons are short, their land is old and must be worn out, still when on the farms and when in the houses of the farmers we see evidences of prosperity and plenty.

The first intimation we have of being in a prosperous community is the splendid roads on which large loads of produce can be hauled quickly; we next note the fences and hedges in good repair; our attention is next called to the large and commodious barns and farm buildings, all kept nicely painted, and showing that they are warmly and strongly built; and lastly we are attracted by the neat and comfortable dwelling houses. When we compare these conditions with those existing in our southland an army of reasons appears and we are instantly prepared with arguments to show that these conditions exist by reason of nearness to market, high prices etc. But the arguments are quickly explained, the fallacy of them exposed and we are left with conclusions not coming to ourselves. Upon examination we find that southern produce does sell for less than it does here, chickens for instance, but the price of corn, oats wheat and other crops is less than our farmers receive. And then they say that they have more land and keep more stock and keep more land in better condition. A little investigation must be made to see if this is true.

when exposed to the cold and rain. We have seen milk cows in this county that only have an open shed to stay in. If you don't take good care of a cow's outside you will have to put a lot on her inside, and that costs.

Still there is another point of difference. We noticed that the prosperous farmers in other sections talk of "how much corn they raise," while our farmers seem proud of "how much land they tend"—in other words, we of this section rather have in 100 acres and only partially cultivate it than to put in 75 acres and raise just as much. We are land poor, but we must learn that it is better to tend 25 acres well than 100 acres poorly. Have you ever noticed that our farmers have about the easiest time of any men in the community when it comes to the amount of time they work? Suppose our merchants, railroad men, artisans and other workers were idle as much during the year as the farmers. There is always something for the farmer to do and if he wants to succeed he must keep hustling; there are many rainy day jobs on the farm and they cannot be overlooked. We would therefore suggest that our farmers try less land and more work and we guarantee a most pleasing and satisfactory result. Our soil is much more fertile, our seasons more suited to agriculture, our markets are equal to any in the comparison.

AT LAST PANAMA TREATY IS SIGNED

Subscribed to by Secretary Hay and Minister Varilla

PRESIDENT HAS BEEN ADVISED.

Panama Cedes to the United States Whatever Land in the Republic the Government Shall Find Desirable in Building.

Washington, November 19.—Secretary Hay and M. Philippe Bunau-Varilla, the minister from Panama, last evening signed the Hay-Bunau-Varilla treaty, providing for the construction of the Panama canal by the United States. The ceremony occurred in Secretary Hay's study. The Panama minister arrived at Mr. Hay's house promptly, having made an appointment with the secretary for a conference. He was surprised to find that



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