

# Sylvan Valley News

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

MINER & BREESE.

BREVARD, TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1904.

VOL. IX—NO. 19

## 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.

WM. MAXWELL, Sec'y.

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## Notice of Summons by Publication.

North Carolina—Transylvania County.

In Superior Court.

W. M. Gillespie vs. Tom Gillespie.

Tom Gillespie, the defendant above named, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Transylvania County by the plaintiff above named for the purpose of recovering from the defendant the share of the plaintiff in the real and personal estate of Jackson Gillespie, deceased, the said real estate lying in the County of Transylvania, in the State of North Carolina, and said defendant will take notice that he is required to appear at the next term of the Superior Court of the said county to be held at the court house in Brevard, N. C., on the fifth Monday after the first Monday in March, 1904, and answer or demur to the complaint in the said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in his complaint. This 9th day of March, 1904.

T. T. LOFTIS,  
Clerk of Superior Court.

## A Russian View of the War.

Much interest is attached to a peculiarly outspoken interview with Prince Ukhtomsky, editor of the St. Petersburg *Viedomosti*, on the war with Japan and its probable consequences. While blaming the Japanese for the rupture and declaring that the Russian government neither expected nor wished war, Prince Ukhtomsky says that behind this immediate technical issue as to who was the first aggressor is the great fact that Russia's course in the far east has been the course not of a civilizing government, but of a promoter and speculator. Too many, he says, were personally and peculiarly interested in the railroad contracts, the jobs at Harbin and elsewhere and the exploitation of the new territory. He continues:

Port Arthur was wholly unnecessary to our purposes. As a port it is no better than Vladivostok, and we gained nothing by acquiring it and building a railway to the point. Yet because irresponsible bureaucrats and unthinking officials wanted it we had to become the near neighbors of the Japanese, to whom we brought anything but neighborly sentiments. No wonder they do not love us. The legitimate and systematic advance of Russia has been jeopardized by a militant commercial policy of conquest. Herein is the real cause of the conflict.

While we cannot recede now and must go on till we defeat the Japanese, no one is glad of the war. It will exhaust us financially, strengthen the military and reactionary elements, without at the same time yielding us any advantages, material or moral, and, besides, it may extend over a very long period and lead to utterly unforeseen complications.

The prince adds that the Japanese in spite of their prowess cannot excite in Russia those national sentiments of pride, enthusiasm and unity which war between moral equals generally arouses. The Jap is regarded by the Russian as half a man, and there is no glory in fighting him even successfully:

This sentiment is the same throughout Russia. We feel as does a refined man who has been embroiled in a fight with one far inferior to himself. Neither pleasure nor honor is to be had with unpleasing and unbecoming "there are sure to be. This is why we are so sympathetic, or, more correctly, disgruntled, and in the worst of humors.

## The Destruction of Forests.

The annual report of the superintendent of the state forests of New York, which has just come to hand, shows that some progress has been made in recent years in the way of lessening the destruction by forest fires, though the annual loss from this cause is still very great. The New York superintendent says that the Adirondack forest would have been destroyed last year, "leaving nothing but a bare and blackened ruin throughout its entire extent," had it not been for the work of the wardens. These men, during the prolonged drought, prevented the numerous fires from running together.

Such care of great forests is becoming more necessary largely because of inexcusable carelessness on the part of hunters and visitors in the forest regions. Farmers are also guilty of criminal neglect in this respect. Fifty-six of them were fined in the Adirondack region last year for starting fires on their farms and in that way carelessly setting fire to the adjoining forest. Sparks from railroad locomotives caused many fires. One road in the mountains is compelled by law to use oil for fuel, and no fires took place on that line. Many fires were caused by fishermen and tourists who started fires for cooking purposes and left them burning. Few persons, apparently, stop to consider the great loss they cause by such carelessness.

The report emphasizes the necessity of stringent laws in this respect and their strict enforcement, and this refers to the forests of the whole country as well as New York. Unfortunately many states lack the necessary legislation to protect the forests.

Judged by a pamphlet published by the government of Paraguay, that country may become an important source of cotton supply. Its eastern region gives an average yield of about 500 pounds to the acre, where in the best field in this country it is only about 290 pounds. The entire cotton belt in Paraguay is close to water transportation, and the only cause which has prevented the development of the industry is one that exists all over South America—the absence of an adequate and sufficient labor supply.

## Russia and American Trade.

Were confirmation needed of the fact that Russian success in the far east augurs ill for the growth and expansion of American trade, it is to be found in certain statistics in regard to American exports to China lately given out by an official of the treasury department at Washington.

Comparing the value of cotton cloth sold to China during the last eight months of the present fiscal year with sales for the corresponding period during 1902, he finds that there has been a falling off of 80 per cent. In other words, the total has dropped from \$10,094,836 to \$2,762,078. The official in question does not hesitate to lay the greater part of the responsibility at the door of the Russians, who have availed themselves of the advantage afforded them by the possession of Port Arthur and Dainy and their hold on Manchuria, so plainly in violation of the treaty, to shut out American products as far as possible and to substitute therefor goods of their own make, in many cases imitations of popular American brands. Their imitative tactics appear to have had much effect throughout the whole country, but in Manchuria their success has been absolute. For over a year it has been practically impossible to get our manufactures into that province.

These figures are very timely, as they furnish a pretty effectual refutation of Russia's contention that her success in the orient means the extension of civilization and the world's commerce.

## The Attendance in Universities.

The registrar of Columbia university at New York has lately compiled some figures showing the enrollment of the principal universities of the country, which are as follows:

Harvard, 6,013; Columbia, 4,557; Chicago, 3,436; Michigan, 3,325; California, 3,300; Illinois, 3,264; Wisconsin, 3,250; Cornell, 2,438; Wisconsin, 3,247; Yale, 2,200; Pennsylvania, 2,190; Nebraska, 2,187; Syracuse, 2,207; Ohio State, 1,719; Indiana, 1,514; Missouri, 1,500; Princeton, 1,431; Leland Stanford, Jr., 1,370; Johns Hopkins, 694.

This is said to be a larger aggregate enrollment in the higher institutions of learning than has hitherto been recorded, while it is asserted that the matriculation at the lesser institutions is proportionately large, facts which in themselves are highly gratifying and significant.

Of the twenty institutions named in the foregoing list twelve properly come under the general head of "western," being west of the Alleghany mountains, and it is in these institutions that the attendance is largest, with two exceptions, Harvard and Columbia. It may be noted that Chicago, Michigan, California, Illinois and Minnesota are ahead of Cornell, Yale, Pennsylvania, Princeton and Johns Hopkins, which rank among the principal institutions of learning in the world. The registrar shows that in the western and middle western schools the attendance is rapidly increasing, while the standard of scholarship and instruction is steadily nearing the goal of perfection. All this is significant of several gratifying facts, one of these is that culture is not sectional and that the facilities for attaining it in the highest degree are not circumscribed within narrow limits. The time was when the impression prevailed that the highest culture was obtainable only within the historic environment of the older institutions of the east. This is now happily changed, and we are witnessing a broad and symmetrical development of the whole country in the matter of education, which is indicative not only of a wider and more general desire for advanced knowledge than has hitherto prevailed, but the means and facilities for gratifying it.

## Forecasting the Weather.

Any one who can find out what causes the weather and apply his knowledge to forecasting what the weather will be for thirty days at a time can get \$150,000 from the United States government if a bill introduced by Senator Bard of California becomes a law. The Bard bill offers \$150,000 in two prizes, one of \$100,000 and the other of \$50,000, for the discovery of the

physical basis of meteorology. Even government weather experts admit that they do not know what causes the weather. They can tell with some accuracy what the weather will be for twenty-four hours because they can find out certain things about the weather conditions surrounding points for which predictions are made, but they can't say what is going to happen next. There are scientists in Washington, however, who believe that there is a fixed basis of the weather and that once this basis is discovered it will be possible on any given date to predict exactly what the weather will be for every day that month, including rainfall, temperature and all other things necessary to be known for the benefit of agriculture, horticulture or commerce.

The trouble is to discover the basis, which successfully and persistently eludes the scientific weather sharps as well as the goose bone prophets.

It is a toss up since the last policy was taken out which woman carries the heavier life insurance. Mrs. Leland Stanford of California or Mrs. James Dunsuir of Toronto. The odds are in favor of Mrs. Stanford, for she now is rated as insured for "over" \$1,000,000, whereas Mrs. Dunsuir is put down at an even \$1,000,000. They are unquestionably the most heavily insured women on the American continent and far ahead of any of their sisters in the east. The next nearest is Mrs. Basil N. Duke of Durham, N. C., who has policies amounting to \$385,600.

The fact that the navy department has cut "Hail Columbia" from the musical programme of the flag lowering ceremony and made the "Star Spangled Banner" the whole thing will greatly relieve many people who unduly distress themselves about the national anthem.

Japan is censuring some of her prominent citizens who are staying at home and trying to make money out of the war. Every war develops a large class of that kind of patriots.

From a late St. Petersburg dispatch it appears that the 600 Russians who were killed a few weeks ago in a fight on the Yalu river are living in complete ignorance of their fate.

Tsi An can recall episodes in China's history that will enable her to contemplate the discomfiture of either Russia or Japan with a certain vengeful satisfaction.

Admiral Togo may be a corker, but he hasn't yet been able to cork up the mouth of Port Arthur harbor.

There would be something doing worth talking about if Japan could borrow the Kearsarge and the Wisconsin for target practice at Port Arthur.

The recent heavy purchase of rifles by Turkey is singular in the fact that no recent capture and ransom of missionaries have been reported.

Now it appears that in the matter of "bottling up" the Russian fleet in Port Arthur the Japanese remembered everything save the stomper.

After looking into Venezuela's arrangements for paying its debts Kaiser Wilhelm is disposed to feel that his navy is in need of bombard practice again.

London physicians have discovered that radium will not cure cancer. It is barely possible that there are a lot of other things that it will not cure.

Apparently Young Corbett does not feel so youthful as he did before his experience with Mr. Britt.

It is to be hoped that the St. Petersburg and Tokyo governments are not depending wholly upon the "official reports" for their knowledge of the situation.

In addition to respecting the integrity of China, Russia is also learning to respect the navy of Japan.

## KATS KNEW CAT WAS ABOUT.

But They Never Saw the Cat and Were on Another Floor of the House.

"I have observed recently a rather curious thing with respect to the relationship between cats and rats, and it has led to a rather interesting reflection," said a man who takes much interest in animal life, to a *New Orleans Times-Democrat* reporter. "For awhile the rats overran my place. At night there was no such thing as quiet around the house. They would scamper across the floor, bump up and down the steps and cut all kinds of capers. We secured a cat, and from the very time the cat appeared on the place the rats began to get scarce.

"There is nothing curious about this fact in itself. But to my personal knowledge the rats have never seen the cat. The cat has remained on one floor and the rats on another. There has been no chasing and no conflict between them. Now, I want to know how the rats know the cat is on the place.

"The inquiry has caused me to indulge the more interesting reflection: How far can a rat detect the presence of a cat by the sense of smell? Evidently at considerable distance. Else the rats at my place would not have known of the cat's presence under the circumstances. I'm quite sure that they have never seen the cat. But they know he is there just the same, and they have been awfully cautious since his arrival."

## SILENCE NOT ALWAYS BEST.

One Woman Found a Flaw in the Time-Honored Adage—Experimented with Swedish Cook.

Misunderstandings sometimes arise from slight causes, and occasionally one occurs which seems to prove that silence is not always golden. In this case trouble was brewed without a word being spoken. Young Mrs. Bond's Swedish cook, says the *Youth's Companion*, was scrupulously neat about her work, but her figure was so unlovely, and her countenance so unprepossessing that her over-astiduous young mistress could never look at her, instead, when necessary to intervene, an unattractive maid she kept her eyes fixed upon a large black coal scuttle that always stood before the kitchen stove.

One day as Mrs. Bond stood, as usual, in the doorway gazing intently at the coal hod while Matilda was telling what groceries were needed, the handmaiden unexpectedly changed the subject and proceeded to give vent to the pent-up feelings of many weeks.

"Vat for you all tam luke at my's coal bucket, messis?" exclaimed Matilda, with evident resentment. "Every day I scrob been inside and I scrob been outside, until he vas just so clean as my own vash heem—luke, messis, I have scrub all she's steen of heem—but all the time you lute—luke at heem like you tank I don't vash heem at all! I never sees no lady so particular about she's coal bucket!"

## CHEESE IN WISCONSIN.

In Spite of Seventeen Hundred Factories in State There Is No Over Production.

"You might as well look for an over-production of children as an over-production of cheese," said U. S. Baer, secretary of the Wisconsin Cheese Makers' association, at the Republican house, to a *Minneapolis Sentinel* reporter. "The fact that we have upward of 1,700 cheese factories in Wisconsin has raised the cry that the business is being overdone. The people of this country have not yet learned to eat cheese, but they are coming to it. Let me tell you the consumption per capita in England is nearly 12 pounds a year, while in Wisconsin it is only about three pounds a year to each person. We are above the average of the states in the consumption of cheese, notwithstanding we are so far behind the Englishmen in this respect. There were produced in Wisconsin during the past year 90,000,000 pounds of cheese, which is more than a quarter of the whole amount produced in the United States. The average price has been ten cents a pound, so that you can see, with possibly the exception of butter, the making of cheese is the first single farm industry in the state. There is no Wisconsin cheese being exported, for the simple reason that the domestic demand takes all the supply."

All prod poles have been barred at the South Omaha stock yards and the packers will now be expected to instruct their men to equip themselves with the new style of whip.