

Sylvan Valley News

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

J. J. MINER, Manager.

BREVARD, TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1905.

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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. W. M. MAXWELL, Sec'y.

Conestee Lodge No. 237,

I. O. O. F.
Meets every Monday night at 8 o'clock. Visiting brothers are cordially invited to visit us. D. B. HANCOCK, • G.

Transylvania Lodge No. 143,

Knights of Pythias
Regular convention every Tuesday night in Masonic Hall. Visiting Knights are cordially invited to a t. d. WILSON GALLOWAY, C. C.

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SEWERAGE.

Shall Brevard Have a Sewerage System Planned by Experts—a System that Will not Require Rebuilding in a Few Years?

Editor Sylvan Valley News:

It is proposed that the Town of Brevard spend \$8,000, more or less, on a system of sewerage and for fear that all do not see the great advantages to be derived from such a course, the Sylvan Valley News and its editor, prompted by the desire to benefit the whole community, has consented to publish a few of the facts in regard to the necessity for a sewerage system for the town of Brevard.

One way to show this would be to call attention to what other towns are doing in this direction. During the past winter the public school system of New York City has given 4,650 lectures to 1,155,000 people on water-works, sewerage, electricity, the first thing to be done in case of an accident, music, English Literature, city government and kindred subjects that are of an interest to common, every day people. The lectures were given in the school houses. Now if this busy people of New York City can give time and attention to such subjects, why should not we, as citizens of Brevard, take an interest in the things of such vital importance to the Town.

Nothing can be more attractive to people looking for a permanent or a temporary home than a good water plant, a good sewerage system and a good electric lighting plant. As a rule we take but little interest in the subjects we are not familiar with. If the few talks on sewerage in general, and the proposed sewerage system of Brevard in particular, draw out discussions and suggestions and lead the people of Brevard to take a deeper interest in the subject then our efforts will not have been in vain.

A good supply of pure water is of prime importance to all, especially to a city. Next in importance is the disposition of the sewage. The necessity of a proper system of sewerage follows closely that of pure water and the water-works. Engineers design carriers for water-borne sewage from houses, manufactories, streets, etc. Economy and capacity, not only for the present, but for years to come must not be overlooked.

Health and convenience of the population of a city demand that its sewage shall be removed as soon as possible to a point beyond the residences where it can be so treated that it shall lose permanently its power for evil.

There are three methods of removing sewage from a town, viz: The dry, the pneumatic, and the gravity water carriage. In considering the proposed methods for any particular locality the engineer is called upon to consider an endless variety of problems. That pertaining to finances, which

should be the least, is very often the greatest. The less the amount of money at his disposal the greater the care needed in planning the system. Over 99 per cent of the towns having any system whatever make use of the water carriage system. But there will always be localities where the dry or pneumatic systems can be used to better advantage.

There is probably no subject upon which sanitarians are more thoroughly agreed than upon the inherent filthiness and danger of the cess pool as ordinarily constructed. This vilest of nuisances is dangerous in two ways. Material from a vault or cess-pool may reach and taint wells for hundreds of feet around, and it may taint the air existing in the soil under the cellars, which air will exhale and permeate the houses above.

The dry method consists in the sewage being deposited in galvanized iron cans, the contents of which are collected daily by city teams and carried to some farm beyond the city limits. This method is used in Marseilles, Hayre and other French cities; also in Birmingham and Manchester, England. It has also been used to a limited extent in Vineland, N. J., Memphis, Tenn., Atlanta, Ga., and Warren, Ohio, but it is being replaced with the water carriage system.

This dry or pul system has its disadvantages but it is vastly superior to the cess-pool. One serious objection to the dry system is its failure to remove slops, sink water and urine. Neither does it remove surface water nor provide for the drainage of soil. The deodorizers used in the dry system are brick clay, loam and catcoal. Ashes are less effective than those mentioned above.

There are three so-called pneumatic systems for removing sewage from a town, but as there is no probability of their ever being adopted in Brevard a description of them will be omitted unless the readers of the News wish to hear more about them.

The water carriage system, such as is proposed by the Town of Brevard (and is used by 99 per cent. of all towns that have any system) is not perfect but it is the best and cheapest method yet contrived for the removal of sewage. The two most weighty arguments against it are: First, the large amount of water needed and consequently the pollution of the streams into which it is turned. Second, the waste of the municipal properties. This latter objection cannot be a serious one for the reason that no commercially profitable method of utilizing it has yet been found.

There are two different methods of conveying sewage from a

town to its outskirts by gravity water carriage. One is called the combined system and the other is called the separate system. The combined system provides only one set of pipes, not only for sewage of all descriptions from house and factory, but for surface, cellar and soil drainage as well. Both sewage and storm water is allowed to run into one system of large pipes. The separate system requires two independent systems of drains. One for sewage proper or excrement while the surface and soil drainage, rain waters and liquid waste pass off in a much larger and independent set of drains.

The problem as to whether the separate or the combined system should be used in any particular town is a serious one, and should be thoroughly considered from all points of view by experts before a decision is made. The combined system has some advantages but as a rule the separate system has greater advantages. Every town should consider thoroughly all aspects of the situation and be able to produce excellent reasons for the combined system before deciding to adopt it.

Years ago, when the population of the city of Worcester, Mass., was small they adopted the combined system which answered their purpose for a time. But in later years when the state passed laws forbidding all towns to run sewage into streams or ponds of water before it was purified it was necessary for the city of Worcester to adopt the separate system and make two sets of pipes—a small set of pipes for sewage proper and one large set for storm and surface water. It cost that city \$1,000,000 to make the change. Other facts could be given showing the wisdom of a thorough examination by every town before a foot of sewer pipe is laid.

It is impossible to draw a true line between the merits of the combined and the separate systems of sewerage depending upon the varying conditions. It is the impression of the best authorities that in many instances a judicious combination of the two will work to better advantage than either alone, and they consider the systems as co-operative rather than as rivals.

State laws are becoming more rigid each year in regard to the pollution of streams and ponds by sewage. And even if the present law permits the cities of this section to empty its sewage into the French Broad river, the time may not be far distant when it will be forbidden. When that time arrives it will be necessary for the sewerage to be treated and the effluent purified before it is allowed to enter the river. Of course this applies more particularly to thickly settled portions of the country.

But the separate system has other merits applicable to all sections of the country. For example, two independent sets of drains, very often, will cost no more than one system of large pipes for the combined system. Notwithstanding the above the

fact should not be overlooked that street washings are often as foul though not usually as dangerous as house sewage and the water should be purified before it is allowed to run into any stream or lake. R. A. W.

A New Apostle of Work.

David Graham Phillips, author of "The Great God Success" and other novels, has a new word to say about keeping at it. Speaking in a recent interview of the profession of authorship, he says:

Work, work whether you want to or not. You must exercise your brain as religiously as you do your muscles. I throw away a week's day's writing, sometimes, but I am satisfied that at least I've done a day's work, and it has kept my steam up and prevented me from resting—largely behind. I've learned something too. You can't work an hour at anything without learning something.

Mr. Phillips thinks that the artistic temperament in literature is nothing but illness or dyspepsia. If symptoms of it appear, they should be fought to the death.

Criticism, this author believes, is a good thing for the craft if it is of the right kind. It should not stay with tearing down, but go further and instruct the writer how to build up. Mr. Phillips says that modern criticism originated in England, "where Oxford and Cambridge turn out men all of one cut, one brain, one filled and stretched mental vision," and criticism

The college man is a dangerous danger started with the principle that it is better to be a professor in a charmed place with fixed views to pass than a literary publisher, than to live shoulder to shoulder with each other in the simplicity of manual human weakness.

The American colleges, particularly those in the east, are turning out more men of men all out in the same way, and called to believe themselves superior in intellectual knowledge, an encouragement that most un-American thing called class and culture.

Mr. Phillips was a college man himself and does not deny college training, but he thinks that the old standards of criticism established by the schools are out of date. Critics too often write merely to air their literary vanity, and they mercilessly scold a young author, whose only faults are enthusiasm and honesty to his subject.

During the hard fighting in the far east an almost entire absence of fatalities among general officers has been noted. During the last eighteen months of the American civil war twenty-three general officers of the Confederate army were killed in battle, and the Federal armies lost thirteen general officers and fourteen colonels, acting commanders of brigades. During this period of the war sharpshooting had become a high art, and officers were not backward about getting within range.

Cuba entered upon the fourth year of independence with very bright prospects. Peace reigns with the little isle, and her relations with outside peoples are those of cordial friendship and good will. And a presidential election coming on will furnish the needed excitement to make liberty seem the real thing.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the city of Toledo, county and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of One Hundred Dollars for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.—FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

(SEAL) A. W. GLEASON,
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