

# 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 23, 1905.

VOL. X—NO. 25

## 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.

## 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, W. G.

## Transylvania Lodge No. 143,

**Knights of Pythias**  
Regular convention every Tuesday night in Masonic Hall. Visiting Knights are cordially invited to attend.  
WELCH GALLOWAY, C. C.

## Brevard Telephone Exchange.

HOURS:  
Daily—7 a. m. to 10 p. m.  
Sunday—8 to 10 a. m., 4 to 6 p. m.  
Central Office—McMinn Block.

## Professional Cards.

**W. A. GASH,**  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.  
Rooms 7 & 8, McMinn Bld'g, Brevard, N. C.

**W. B. DUCKWORTH,**  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.  
Investigation of Land Titles a Specialty.  
Rooms 1 and 2, Pickett-Simer Building.

**ZACHARY & BREESE**  
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW  
Offices in McMinn Block, Brevard, N. C.

**WELCH GALLOWAY,**  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.  
Practices in all the courts  
Rooms 9 and 10, McMinn Block.

**D. L. ENGLISH**  
LAWYER  
Rooms 11 and 12 McMinn Block,  
BREVARD, N. C.

## Miscellaneous.

### The Æthelwold

Brevard's New Hotel—Modern Apartments—Open all the year. The patronage of the traveling public as well as summer tourists is solicited. Opp. Court House, Brevard, N. C.

## THE OLD RELIABLE

### McMinn Hotel

M. B. WATERS, Manager.

Thoroughly renovated from Kitchen to Attic. Moderate Price—\$1 to \$1.50 per day according to rooms.

Good Table.

Attentive Waiters.

Clean and Comfortable Rooms.

Main Street—Opposite Postoffice.

## Brevard, N. C.

## To Road Overseers.

TAKE NOTICE—It is hereby ordered that all roads in Brevard township must be put in good order before July 1, 1905. All overseers who neglect or fail to obey this order will be indicted.

J. J. SHIPMAN,  
Chn. Board Supervisors.

## SEWERAGE.

### Shali Brevard Have a Sewerage System planned by Experts---a System that Will not Require Rebuilding in a Few Years?

Editor Sylvan Valley News.

The arrangement of a sewerage system is a difficult problem for any town to solve, but especially for Brevard, as it is necessary for the sewerage to flow from the town in two or three directions. We might go to the fountain head of the difficulties at once and ask ourselves if we have a legal or moral right to turn the sewage into the French Broad River. Several months ago the writer wrote to the State Board of Health on this subject but has received no reply. The legal and medical professions of the town can properly answer this question. While it is being discussed and answered let us consider another problem.

How shall we run the sewerage to the French Broad river? In open ditches across private property, or through sewer pipes? If it is decided to use pipes how large shall the pipes be? As this question stands it seems to be a very simple one but in reality it places before the reader one of the most difficult problems of arranging a sewer system. Shall the pipe be large enough simply for the sewage or shall it be large enough to carry the rain water also? How much territory shall be drained by each main sewer? All of these and many other questions can be intelligently answered only when the town authorities are in possession of a good map, a map not only of the village but of the surrounding territory, showing the water courses and the acreage that is drained by the different streams that pass through the village. The map of the town should show the grades of every street and the grade of the streams or valleys along which it is proposed to run the sewage from the town to the French Broad river. The map should show not only the streets within the corporation, but the territory that is liable to be built up within the next twenty years.

A complete map of any town is absolutely necessary before a sewerage system can be properly arranged. Such a map in the possession of the Town of Brevard would be of service to the town for all time to come. A part of the expenses of making the survey and map would be paid for by selling copies of the map. Investors, real estate agents and their patrons are always glad to see a map of a town that they are interested in. Large numbers could be sold.

If Brevard has a legal right to turn its sewage into the French Broad River before it is purified, how long will that right continue? How soon will the time come when the state will forbid the pollution of its streams and lakes? Massachusetts will not allow its streams or ponds to be polluted by sewage. Other states are passing laws looking to the safety and health of the

people. The sewage of the city or town consists of its refuse, waste of all kinds. In general the sewages of all towns are alike, but on close examination it cannot be found that the sewages of any two towns are alike. We must dispossess our minds of the common impression that part of the sewage which is of human excrement is alone dangerous, for the reason that the kitchen wastes have the same putrescible matter and in a state less easily rendered innocuous. The first flow of strong water from the streets into the sewer is very often as offensive if not quite as dangerous as human excreta.

Prussian and English engineers have long held the view that an increase in the amount of sewage by rains, instead of diluting the sewage, renders it still more impure by the addition of horse droppings and other refuse. The diversity of manufacturing industries makes the disposal of a city's sewage a serious problem by the exceeding dilution of the sewage (998 parts in 1000 being water) of an average American city. The average amount of sewage in forty-two European cities is 58 gallons per person per twenty-four hours, and this amount is exceeded in some American cities. For example, Concord, Mass., 68 gallons; Clinton and Marlborough, Mass., 80 gallons.

Having this sewage on hand, the first object is to dispose of it so it will not become a nuisance, and the second is to deprive it permanently of its power for evil. Communities are like individuals, they will be good when they have to be good. And it is at this point that the law asserts itself (or should do so) and protects any community from a nuisance caused by another community. England has national laws, and Massachusetts has excellent laws for this purpose, while some states give no protection whatever. The legal principles involved vary in different localities and with different interpreters of the law, frequently depending upon rulings as to what creates a nuisance. A recent ruling in the United States Supreme court has included in the "Creating of a Nuisance" the rendering unfit for drinking purposes water which would otherwise be used for drinking purposes. The Supreme court of Connecticut stated in a recent ruling "The discharge of sewage and other noxious matters into an inland stream to the injury of a riparian property below, has been held to be an unlawful invasion of the rights of said property."

In 1898 the California Superior court granted an injunction against the city of Santa Rosa from emptying its sewage into a creek. In the year 1900 the Virginia Supreme court decided that neither municipal nor private

corporations can pollute a stream by sewage or otherwise without being liable for damages for any injury caused thereby.

It is advisable for any town both to consult the State Board of health and to obtain reliable legal advice before finally deciding the question of disposal of sewage. The most important point is to so treat the sewage that it will lose its power for evil permanently. It is the duty of the engineer to educate the public conscience in states that have no law pertaining to this subject. The results of a long series of attempts in Europe and America to properly dispose of sewage at a profit for the town is a failure. Farmington and other Massachusetts cities use their sewage as fertilizer on corn fields. So far as the writer knows the best results are obtained by cities near desert or sandy regions where the sewerage is needed for irrigation. Pasadena, California, has gone into the business extensively and sold its farm products in the year 1899 for about \$6,000, but when the cost of the farm was taken into consideration, there is no profit for the town.

The failures referred to above are not surprising when we realize the fact that the value of one ton of sewage of the city of Boston, Mass., is only one cent.

The state laws and the laws of sanitary science are of prime importance but very often on account of lack of funds the engineer may be obliged to make serious compromises. Matter in a state of putrescence is harmful to human life if taken into the system and volatile emanations from such matter, when breathed into the lungs, will lower the tone of the constitution, and render it more susceptible to disease.

The only true destruction to the dangerous characteristics of sewage is that effected by oxidation and by removal of the disease germs. In planning a sewerage system (even if the laws do not require treatment) the system should be so arranged that treatment can be introduced at any time in the future if the laws should require it.

If the laws of the state and our regard for our neighbors do not forbid, the most economical method to dispose of the sewage is to turn it into some river or ocean. The problem requires serious consideration. Some have claimed that it was a waste of fertilizing material to turn sewage into a river or ocean. It is true that land loses it for a time, but the loss is only temporary, for organic matter in water forms food for various forms of filth-infusoria which serve as food for fish, and fish in turn for man. If the laws did not forbid it would be a common practice to turn sewage into the nearest body of water but the towns of Massachusetts have found that it is unnecessary to pollute any stream with sewage. Clinton, a town of 14,000 population and making from 625,000 gallons sewage in dry weather to 1,600,000 in wet weather, purifies its sewage for eighty one cents per

head annually. Worcester, Mass., with a population of 127,000, treating daily 13,000,000 gallons of sewage, purified its sewage in 1902 for 60 cents per head. Lawrence, Mass., nine miles below Lowell on the Merrimac river, took its domestic water supply from the river, and previous to filtering the water, the death rate from typhoid fever ran as high as thirteen for every 10,000 population in 1890. By filtering the water the death rate was gradually reduced to 1½ per 10,000 in 1898.

So far as the writer knows, no one is able to say to what extent dilution must be carried to render this sewage innocuous. If the body of water contains sufficient free oxygen to oxidize all the sewage reaching it, the organic matter will be very shortly decomposed without offense, and lose permanently its power for evil.

Ordinarily sewage does not take kindly to quiet, pure water, but remains by itself. For this reason if sewage is emptied into a stream, it should be allowed to enter the stream above rapids or falls if possible. Authorities differ as to the amount of dilution necessary to render sewage innocuous, but it is usually placed between 1,500 and 3,000 gallons per day per person contributing to the sewage.

In the present state of our knowledge we should, however, err on the side of safety, and the mere fact that chemical analysis fails to detect impurities should not be accepted as a guarantee that the water is fit to drink. This applies to drinking water from ice also, as many varieties of bacteria live in ice for months. There are several methods of purifying sewage before the water is allowed to enter streams or ponds. The first is by sewage or bacteria beds; second, by broad irrigation; third, chemical precipitation; fourth, septic tank—all of which can be explained in detail if the readers of the News are interested. R. A. W.

## What She Does.

First Lady Clerk—There goes the meanest woman in town.  
Second Lady Clerk—Who is she?  
First Lady Clerk—I don't know, but she is always coming in here, and wanting something we haven't got.—Chicago Daily Record.

## Glad of It.

Sea Captain—There is no hope! The ship is doomed! In an hour we will all be dead!  
Seasick Passenger—Thank Heaven!—Tit-Bits.

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,  
Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free.—F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by all druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.