

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, OCTOBER 13, 1905.

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The Editor's Outing.

What One Sees, Learns and Enjoys by Getting Away from Home.

The illness of C. A. Miner at Petersburg made it necessary to either curtail our visit with Brother I. D. Miner or continue it at the home of another son, E. L. Miner, who was living in Washington, so we decided to spend a few dollars more than expected and visit another nephew. We found him and his wife occupying apartments in the DeSoto, corner of Massachusetts ave. and 13th st.—a "swell" part of the city—\$50 per month rent for 5 rooms. But before we reached his home we concluded to visit his work.

Long bridge is one of the historical landmarks of Washington, but a large portion of it is about to disappear. A new iron draw bridge is now in place and is being completed as rapidly as workmen with electric riveting machines can do the work. E. L. Miner and partner have the contract to make the Virginia approach to the bridge, and the earth with which the road is constructed is hauled two miles. Two "dinky" engines hauling eight loaded cars each are employed and a tram railroad to the dirt quarry has been built. At the pit a steam dipper dredge does the loading. This filling in has been in progress since May and it will take two months more of good weather to complete the approach.

Talking about big jobs, we could not resist the temptation to go and inspect the great cement bridge which Washington City is building over Rock creek, and its ravine, for the crossing of Connecticut avenue on the city grade. Rock creek divides Washington from Georgetown and is a smaller stream than Cathey's creek, but it wouldn't do in this age of automobiles and bicycles, to ride up and down hill to get to a bridge, so a good, substantial iron bridge, 40 feet wide and two hundred long, has been destroyed to make room for this magnificent structure. The bridge will consist of five arches—3 of 150 feet span and two of 83 feet. The foundations for this bridge were laid three years ago and it will require another year to finish the job—and the cost will be a million dollars. We hadn't time to consult the architect and obtain exact data, but from the best estimate we could make the three center spans will be 150 feet above the creek, and when completed this will be the greatest piece of cement work on earth.

Another stupendous enterprise that is just now in full swing is the building of a union depot. This includes a tunnel under the Capitol grounds so that all railroads which enter the city will be able to run trains through without the trouble and expense of transferring freight and passengers from one part of the city to another through the streets.

This enterprise will do as much to beautify the city as any one thing, as it will remove the 6th street depot, tracks, and all railroad paraphernalia from the mall, and leave it as first designed—an open park from the Capitol to the Washington Monument—more than a mile. At present the dirt from this tunnel is blockading many of the streets between Capitol Hill and the government printing office on the north, as well as several streets south of the Capitol. That section of Washington is just now in a torn-up condition, but the beauty and convenience resulting will more than repay present disorder.

WASHINGTON.

This is not the time of year to visit our capital city—wait till congress is in session and things are in order. There is an air of neglect manifest everywhere. In the botanical garden worms have built nests in many of the trees and shrubs, and spiders have spun their webs about the cacti and other rare plants. The music of the falling water in the Grotto on the Capitol grounds has ceased; the Fish Commission is out of commission and much of the building is closed for repairs. Not a live fish, nor an aquatic animal, nor even water are to be found about the building, and our visit to this department was a disappointment. Most of its specimens have been sent to Vermont while the needed repairs are in progress.

We visited the Naval Observatory in Georgetown and found it no exception to other departments—part of it closed for repairs, so there was little to attract the visitor. We set our watch by the Observatory clock, which furnishes the standard time for the United States and all of its insular possessions. Others have doubtless done the same, and then return home and regulate their actions by the local time.

No visit to Washington would be complete unless the new Congressional Library—the finest and most complete structure for library purposes in the world—was included, and no visit to this building would be complete unless it includes a call after night. The lighting of the reading room, rotunda, corridors, etc., is simply wonderful. We tried in vain to get in the shadow of a column, or to find a place where "coming events" or things material would "cast their shadows before," or behind. It is as light as day—lighted by electricity—yet nowhere could a light be seen or a shadow be found. It keeps one wondering who conceived the idea of invisible lighting, and who worked out the idea in the construction of this beautiful building.

We had a little personal interest in the government printing

office—wanted to see a self-feeding press, and we saw it—not a press that prints from a continuous web and cuts off the finished product, but one that prints from a pile of cut paper to fit any size form. This machine is one more triumph of inventive genius, and amply paid us for our visit.

PERSONALS.

We called on J. N. Steed who will be remembered by many in Brevard as having, accompanied by his wife, spent a whole winter at the McMinn house here only three years ago. Mrs. Steed was in Atlantic City taking a summer outing and we missed the exquisite pleasure of a chat with her. Mr. Steed is just as "fat" as our people knew him—almost substantial enough to cast a shadow.

We dropped in the pension department and had a chat with D. Harrison Graves, a son of old Rev. Graves of Mills River. He got an appointment in the Interior Department through Hon. Rob't Vance in the winter of 1874-5 and has been in Washington ever since. He has raised his family in the shadow of the capitol, and when he returns to his old home at Mills River, he will be almost a stranger.

Washington city, as we see it, is the most desirable spot on earth for the man of leisure—and that means money—to make a home, and if, by some hocus pocus of fortune we should ever become a millionaire and find it out, we shall take the train next morning to buy a home in that beautiful city.

Editorial Briefs.

And here comes a proposition from a great Kentucky distillery proposing to make the News editor sole agent for the sale of its output in Transylvania county. Considering that we know nothing good of the whisky business, that we paid a snug sum to get rid of its evil effects, and that we have fought and are still fighting its introduction into this county in any and every form, this proposition is "cheeky," to say the least.

Business men who question the fact that advertising pays might learn a lesson by picking up any daily paper and noting how prominently the saloons and whisky manufacturers keep themselves before the public. Even country papers are flooded with propositions to advertise the whisky traffic, but we are glad to note that very few accept the glittering propositions that are offered. It shows conclusively that country papers are not in business simply and entirely for the dollars they can get out of it, but still retain some feeling of sympathy and respect for the welfare of their readers. The country newspaper is the salt of the earth.

A New Perfecting Press.

With its first issue in October the Gazette-News of Asheville came out in a new dress—at least with a new heading—enlarged and greatly improved in appearance.

Its editorial announcement on that occasion contains the following:

Having started out with a press that was little removed from the traditional Washington hand press, we are today printing this paper upon a Cox Duplex web perfecting press, about which we will tell something a little later on. This machinery having been installed, we will at once begin the publication of a mail edition of the paper, and will henceforth give all towns in contiguous territory "today's news today."

In Its Own Building.

The Waynesville Courier announces that last week it moved into a home of its own. We are pleased to note this evidence of its prosperity. In its future efforts for the betterment of humanity it should have the support of every good citizen. Here is what it says editorially:

Now that it has ceased its wanderings and can sit down under its own vine and fig tree, and enjoys the sensation, yet it is not content. The Courier wants to grow better and stronger and do more for Waynesville and Haywood county; more for the maintenance of law and order; more for the encouragement and support of a fair and just administration of municipal and county affairs; more for civic virtue and clean politics, even in the Democratic party; more for the advancement of civilization and the elevation of humanity in morals, intelligence, and in religion as well as in the material things of this life. This is the ambition, aim and purpose of the Courier.

Nothing to Fear.

The question of injurious substances in medicines which has been agitating the minds of many people does not concern those who use Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Mothers need have no hesitancy in continuing to give it to their little ones as it contains absolutely nothing injurious. This remedy is not only perfectly safe to give small children, but is a medicine of great worth and merit. It has a world wide reputation for its cures of coughs, colds and croup and can always be relied upon. For sale by Z. W. Nichols, Brevard and O. L. Erwin, Calvert.

While each democratic policyholder in the Equitable was voting his own little ballot for his principles, his insurance company was casting "\$50,000 worth" of them for the Republican candidate.

The war Department has issued an order against enlistment of any more negroes in the army, and the Washington Post thus comments on the order. "This is just another step toward putting the army on a peace basis." Beat the long roll for the Crum-packer.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the 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. A. W. Gleason, Notary Public.

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