

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, NOVEMBER 10, 1905.

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THE MORSE SCHOOL OF TELEGRAPHY.

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Save the Birds.

In View of Their Services to Man Isn't it Criminal to Kill Them?

During our recent visit to the old settled sections of Virginia we were very forcibly impressed with the scarcity of native birds and the great abundance of insects. Around Petersburg we took long walks into the "rural shades," but the only bird we saw in all that section was the English sparrow.

The apple and pear trees of that section were heavily laden with fruit, but they were also covered with the webs and nests of unsightly caterpillars and worms, whose destructive tendencies made it almost impossible to find a perfect specimen of any kind of fruit. We were told that market gardeners were compelled to cover their young and tender vegetables with canvas in order to prevent the ravages of the hordes of insects ever ready to thwart man's endeavors.

Just now is the "open season" for bird killing—that is, it is lawful to shoot what are generally known as "game" birds, and classed with these is the quail, or partridge as it is known here. The Audubon society has done great work in educating the people of this state to the value of our song birds as a help to the farmer—they should now devote their energies to including the quail—making it unlawful to kill these at any season.

A few years since a heavy snow drove the quail to seek food and protection from the cribs and stacks which man's providence had placed within their reach. A covey came to the writer's door and were fed by hands invisible to them for several days until they became almost as tame as the chickens. One day a man with a gun came into the yard and commenced shooting. Our lands were not posted, and it was the "open season." We never saw any of that covey again—what were not killed were frightened away, probably to starve before the snow disappeared. There wasn't a member of our family whose heart was not filled with sorrow for the fate of our feathered friends.

The quail is a bird of the fields. It stays where insects bury in the ground, and raises its young just in time to gather in the grasshoppers which would destroy all that man undertakes to raise were it not for the birds. As long as man is permitted by law to train dogs to hunt them and then to shoot them on the wing and call it "sport," so long will a scarcity exist and the farmers will be the losers.

We notice a tendency among our young sportsmen (?) to ignore the trespass notices prominently posted on farms, and when caught they escape punishment. This should not be—violators should be punished until they learn to respect the wishes of the land owners. We are pleased to note that many of our

best farmers have learned to appreciate the assistance of these natural helpers and are trying to protect them, and they should have the assistance of the law and the courts.

Should it ever occur that the quail get too numerous and become a menace to the growing and matured crops, the farmer would only need to set a few traps and thin them out to his liking. He would thus be enabled to get some of the benefits of his own protecting care instead of its going to the professional hunter and dog trainer. An amendment to the Audubon law which will include the quail is badly needed, and we hope that whoever represents our county in the next legislature will help to get it.

We have before us the August bulletin of the North Carolina State Board of Agriculture and we gladly copy a part of what it says about the quail. Here it is:

The bobwhite, while feeding chiefly upon seeds, grain and berries during the season of the year when it is mostly hunted, is nevertheless, during the warmer months of the year, one of the greatest insect destroyers in our fields. The stomach of a quail taken from a potato field was examined by an ornithologist some time since, and found to contain the remains of 100 separate potato beetles. Another quail examined by the same authority held the remnants of five hundred chinch-bugs. Therefore it is readily seen that the bobwhite, in addition to being a money crop for the sale of his flesh in market, is also of much practical value after the manner indicated above.

H. S. Anderson of Hendersonville has brought suit against the federal office holders of Western North Carolina for \$20,000 damages for failing to get an office which was promised him in 1900. It is above the average for an ordinary lawyer to accumulate \$20,000 in a lifetime, but we suppose Mr. Anderson considers this a small matter in view of what he would have received had he handled the revenues of the Western district of North Carolina since 1900.

"Uncle Joe" Cannon says "one State" for Oklahoma and Indian Territory or none at all, and the country used to understand that the Speaker is always with the majority if he sides with the man who makes the motion though Uncle Joe may see Oklahoma and Indian Territory come in separately yet.

Beware of Ointments

for Catarrh that contain mercury, as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co, Toledo, O., contains no mercury and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by all Druggists. Price 75c. per bottle. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Subscribe for the News.

White Mulberry Trees.

The State Will Give Away 20,000 Seedlings.

Gerald McCarthy, biologist of the North Carolina department of agriculture, advertises to distribute 20,000 white mulberry trees in various sections of the state. The News would like very much to get a few of these trees, and we do not doubt that many of our farmers and townspeople would like a few to experiment with. If they will leave their orders at the News office, and enough manifest an interest to cover either 50 or 100 trees, we will make an effort to secure them and will divide the package as wanted. Here is the advertisement:

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture will, beginning November 15th, distribute among the farmers of the state 20,000 seedling white mulberry trees.

The distribution is intended to encourage the growing of silk in North Carolina, but the trees will at the same time furnish shade and food for poultry and hogs. Every farm in the state should have a mulberry grove.

The trees should be planted 12 x 12 feet on dry soil and cared for like peach or plum trees.

These trees will be sent by mail, postpaid, in packages of 50 and 100. Not less than 50 nor more than 100 trees will be sent to one address.

To cover cost of packing and mailing, applicants must enclose one cent for each tree. Postage stamps accepted.

This is probably the last distribution of mulberry trees that will be made by the department. Those who want them should apply at once.

Those who have not tried silk growing should send for a copy of Bulletin 181.

Address applications for mulberry trees to the undersigned.

GERALD MCCARTHY, Biologist,
N. C. Department of Agriculture.

"Alimony for the husband" is the decree of a Cincinnati judge. The law works around towards "justice," sooner or later.

"Come closer" said the President to veterans at a southern Soldiers Home. The President is getting closer to the southern people and the southern veterans every day.

From a careful reading of the President's speeches we judge that he is a staunch earnest and unchangeable friend of everybody, without regard to race, color or previous condition of servitude.

In Time of Peace.

In the first months of the Russia-Japan war we had a striking example of the necessity for preparation and the early advantage of those who, so to speak, "shingled their roofs in dry weather." The virtue of preparation has made history and given to us our greatest men. The individuals as well as the nation should be prepared for any emergency. Are you prepared to successfully combat the first cold you take? A cold can be cured much more quickly when treated soon as it has been contracted and before it has become settled in the system. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is famous for its cures of colds and it should be kept at hand ready for instant use.

For sale by Z. W. Nichols, Brevard and O. L. Erwin, Calvert.

WASHINGTON CHAT

Among the Southern Governors Vardaman and Jeff Davis must feel like "The Two Orphans."

The Czar will doubtless learn that yielding comes easier after one gets in the habit of it.

A little reading of the New York papers dispels the notion that there was such a thing as "the silent vote."

Count Cassini if he is reading the dispatches from Russia, now knows about the "bitter end" he used to worry over.

"Japan is becoming democratic" says a Tokyo writer. Well, Mr. Bryan has been in the neighborhood for a couple of weeks.

Wouldn't it have been a joke on the insurance companies if Col. Bryan had been elected in 1896 or 1900, in spite of their "Barrel."

While the judges of the Hall of Fame were trying so hard to decide who should get a niche, strange none of them thought of Pat Crowe.

This announcement that eighteen women are bank cashiers in Iowa is a little surprising. We supposed they would rather be "tellers."

The Sultan of Turkey says that he would rather perish than surrender control of the finances of Macedonia. Talks like a "life insurance president."

An Indian Territory squaw has been discovered who beats her husband. There is no use in trying to get an Indian to take Civilization in moderation.

When you start a story about a town being "in the throes" of something or other you have to look twice to see whether the town is in Russia or Kansas.

We are about willing to accept John A. McCall's assertion that he is a poor man, now that he explains how he has invested all his savings in the life insurance.

Another Oregon Congressman has been sentenced to jail. Oregon seems likely to be more prominently represented in the penitentiary than it is in Congress.

It is going to make a severe draft on Russia's supply of free speech when the Finns and Poles start in to unload their thoughts that have been suppressed for years.

The Hicks Almanac for 1906.

The Rev. Irl R. Hicks Almanac will not be published for 1906, but his monthly Journal, WORD AND WORKS, has been changed into a large and costly Magazine, and it will contain his storm and weather forecasts and other astronomical features complete. The November number, now ready, contains the forecasts from January to June, 1906. The January number, ready December 20th, will contain the forecasts from July to December, 1906. The price of this splendid Magazine is One Dollar a Year. See it and you will have it. The November and January numbers containing the Rev. Irl R. Hicks forecasts for the whole year, and more complete than ever, can be had by sending at once 25 cents to WORD AND WORKS PUBLISHING COMPANY, 2201 Locust Street, St. Louis, Mo.