

Sylvan Valley News

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A HOME PAPER FOR HOME PEOPLE—ALL HOME PRINT

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BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, JULY 11, 1913.

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CONTRACT FORFEITED

The board of aldermen held a very interesting and important meeting in the mayor's office Monday night, adjourning late in the night with a number of important matters left unfinished. Among some of the more important actions taken was the forfeiture of the contract of the R. A. Poe & Co., and their notice to this company that they would take charge of the street paving work on Friday of this week; the donating \$150 to the building fund of the Brevard Institute, and a number of smaller matters.

A petition was presented to the board, signed by a number of citizens of the town and some who were not living in town, asking that the street paving work be stopped when it reached Gaston street, to remainder of the money to be used in building sidewalks. Dr. C. W. Hunt and Mr. J. L. Bell addressed the board, asking that this action be taken, while Messrs. J. S. Silverstein, C. M. Cooke, Jr., T. W. Whitmire and T. H. Shipman urged the board to carry the paving on as originally contemplated. Action on the petition was deferred indefinitely.

A. L. Hardin, the town's engineer, furnished a written statement to the board in which he affirmed that the work of paving the streets is not progressing according to contract; that the time limit expired on July 1, and at that time only about thirty per cent of the work had been done; that there were many instances where the contractors had not complied with their contract, and that he had given them notice that the work was not being carried on satisfactorily, and that they had failed, neglected and refused to carry on the work in the way and manner contemplated by said contract.

The board took the matter under advisement, and upon motion of Alderman Shford, seconded by Alderman Ashworth, duly carried, it was ordered that the contractors be notified that the town would assume control of all matters, material and other things connected in any way with the contract on Friday, July 11, and would take whatever steps as may seem necessary to complete the work. This notice was fixed up in due form and served on the contractors Tuesday morning.

The board did not decide whether it would take direct control of the work or relet the contract at the meeting Monday night, but will probably get some other contractor to finish the work.

Prof. C. H. Trowbridge of Brevard Institute appeared before the board and asked that the town make a donation to the building fund of the Institute and to relieve the school from the payment of water rents. After some discussion by members of the board and others it was decided to donate \$150 to the school, to be paid in three installments. The request as to water rents was refused.

The resignation of J. A. Galloway as chief of police was accepted, but no successor to the chief was elected. T. B. Summey is at present acting as chief pending the election of a chief. Mr. Galloway has accepted a position with the internal revenue department with headquarters at Asheville, having gone to work with the department on the fourth of July.

The board will hold a special session Saturday night when the election of a chief of police will take place.

The dance at the Franklin last Friday night was well attended and quite enjoyable. Among the guests were quite a number from Camp Sapphire. The music was furnished by the Franklin orchestra, composed of Dr. Faust and three daughters, from Bamberg, S. C.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEET

The board of county commissioners held their July meeting last Monday in the register's office. A good deal of business was transacted, consisting for the most part of orders allowed for various services. Road making, and amending also received attention.

The jury appointed in April, 1912, to lay off a new road in Catheys Creek township, having lost their records, submitted a duplicate of the same to the commissioners. The road is to begin near J. M. Hamlin's and to intersect the public road near J. R. Tinsley's. This report will be considered the first Monday in August.

A petition was filed by the road overseer of Catheys Creek township to have an amendment made to the public road near the old William Duckworth home place; but an agreement being made and bond given by C. C. Duckworth to put the present road on a 6 per cent grade and make it twenty-four feet wide, the petition was withdrawn.

The overseer of Hogback was authorized to borrow \$200 to make an amendment on the road from Miller's ford to Sandy Gap.

A petition was filed asking the board to lay off and help build a new road in Gloucester, beginning at G. C. Galloway's and running by C. C. Banther's, J. W. Jones', H. G. Raines' and John Kinzey's, and intersecting the public road above J. F. Thomas'.

SCHOOL COMMITTEEMEN MEET

The school law now provides that "the county board of education shall fix a day and place in each township for the meeting of the committeemen of said township, who shall, in conference with the county superintendent, with whom applications must have previously been filed by all applicants, select the teachers for their respective schools. * * * Provided, that no election of any teacher or any assistant teacher shall be deemed valid until such election has been approved by the county superintendent." In compliance with this law the board of education has fixed the following places and dates for the meeting of the committees of the various townships.

Gloucester, Macedonia church, Monday, July 14.

Hogback, Lakeside school house (Old Hogback), Tuesday, July 15.

Eastataoe, Zion church, Wednesday, July 16.

Catheys Creek, Calvert school house, Thursday, July 17.

Dunns Rock, England's store, Friday, July 18.

Little River, Laurel Creek school house, Saturday, July 19.

Boyd, Penrose High school, Monday, July 21.

Brevard, court house, Tuesday, July 22.

The law requires all the committeemen of the township to meet together with the county superintendent at these meetings, and it is to be hoped that not one committeeman will be absent in any township.

In order to carry out the provisions of the compulsory school attendance law enacted by the last general assembly, an "attendance officer" has to be appointed for each township to take the school census of the various schools of the township and to keep the attendance records. This officer will hold a very important and very responsible position; therefore it is very important that the right man in each township be selected for this work. The committeemen of each township will be expected in their meeting to select the man for this important and responsible office. T. C. HENDERSON, County School Superintendent.

IN MEMORY

HENRY PECK CLARKE.

Henry Peck Clarke, a prominent citizen of this section, died on Sunday, July 6, 1913, in his fifty-fifth year at his beautiful home, "Rockbrook," four miles from Brevard, after a brief illness.

He was the son of Robert Toucey Clarke, a banker of Bridgeport, Conn., and one time mayor of that city, and Harriet Peck of Brookfield Centre, the same state, who was descended from a long line of patriotic men and women. Both his parents were of sturdy New England stock, whose ancestors emigrated to this country from Old England some time in the seventeenth century.

The arrival of the first ancestor of the Clarke family long antedated the Revolution. Joseph Peck, the emigrant ancestor of his mother's family in this country, came from Hingham, Norfolk county, England. In 1638 he and other Puritans, with his brother, Robert Peck, their pastor, fled from the persecutions of the church to this country. They came over in the ship "Diligent" of Ipswich, John Martin, master, and settled in New Hingham, Norfolk county, Massachusetts, afterward emigrating to the Connecticut colony. They were of the gentleman or gentry class, as their coat of arms indicated.

Mr. Clarke was born in Bridgeport, Conn., in April, 1859; he entered into business in his sixteenth year, but after ten years, with health somewhat impaired and at the suggestion of a friend, he came south and bought a plantation at Eastover, South Carolina. In 1886, the year after his arrival at Eastover, he married Julia Caroline Hurd, a daughter of Henry Hurd and Helen Barnum, his wife, of New York City, and brought his young bride to his home in the sunny south where he followed the life of a planter for six years, removing to Columbia, S. C., in 1892, where he remained for three years engaged in literary work as editor of the Columbia Record. At Eastover his only surviving daughter, Nancy Barnum, now Mrs. Henry Nash Carrier, was born, and at Columbia his loving and devoted wife fell asleep. In 1895 he married Mary Jane Macfie of Winnsboro, S. C., a daughter of Capt. James Pringle Macfie and Agnes Rice of Union, S. C., who survives him with his only son, Harry, now in his seventeenth year.

In April, 1898, Mr. Clarke came to Brevard with his family, and some months after his arrival purchased the old Chisholm place on the French Broad, four miles from Brevard, and built a handsome residence which he called "Rockbrook," and there for the past fifteen years he has led a quiet and restful life in his beautiful home with its charming scenery of river and valley and mountain heights, and the loving ministrations of dear ones, the kindly regards of his friends, and the affections of the mountain people who lived near him, and to whom he was wont to minister with a generous kindness that won their hearts.

He lived to give his daughter in marriage, and to see his son reach young manhood, and then fell asleep and was gathered to his Fathers. His body rests on the hill-top in the Gillespie cemetery near Brevard; his spirit has returned to God who gave it.

Mr. Clarke combined in his person the blood of the Cavalier and the Puritan, the Churchman and the Independent; his father's ancestors being of the Church of England stock, and his mother's of the Independent or Congregational; a strong combination that has given birth to loyal men and devoted women in church and state.

Firm in his convictions of right and justice, and independent of speech and action, as his New England ancestry would indicate, he was a man of warm and kindly

heart, whose little acts of thoughtful kindness spoke louder than any words, as many a humble one might testify, and as many did testify by their tearful faces at the last sad service of the church, in his beautiful home.

His sense of hospitality was keen, and his regard for Brevard and its reputation was not expressed in words only. In a letter to me, written three weeks before his death, in view of the coming convention, he said:

"Of course we all want the quality of Brevard's hospitality on this occasion to make a hit; if you need further help let me know, and I will do the best I can."

A man of fine feeling, of true culture, he lived among us unobtrusive in his charities and open in his hospitality; a loyal friend, a kind neighbor, a good citizen, and now he sleeps, sincerely mourned by wife and children, relatives, friends and neighbors. God rest him.

CHALMERS DURAND CHAPMAN, Minister in charge Saint Philips, Brevard, N. C., July 8, 1913.

LONG—CHAFFEE

Just before going to press this week an announcement was received of the marriage at Hendersonville, Thursday, July 10, of Miss M. Wave Long and Mr. Charles A. Chaffee. In the afternoon of the same day the bride and groom spent several hours in Brevard, leaving on the 8:20 train. They will be at home in Geneva, Ohio, after August 1st.

Miss Long has lived in Brevard for about ten years, and gave piano and violin lessons a great part of that time. Her friends here are many. It would be difficult to find another person who in so brief a time had won the affections of so many people. Her leaving is a distinct loss to the community.

A delightfully informal reception was given in Miss Long's former studio Thursday afternoon. Many of her friends and former pupils were present, full of congratulations for the groom and sincere good wishes for the bride.

SINGING CONVENTION

The seventh session of the Transylvania Interdenominational Singing convention will meet with the people and church at Conestee the 26th and 27th of July, 1913, at 10 a. m. Saturday, and the following programme will be carried out:

Song service by the Conestee choir.

Devotional exercises by George Justus.

10:30 a. m.—Roll call and enrollment of new choirs.

11:00 a. m.—Singing by convention.

12:00 m.—Adjournment for dinner one hour.

1:00 p. m.—Called to order by president.

Appointment of committee on time and place.

Singing by different choirs alternately until 3:30 p. m.

Adjournment until 10:00 a. m. Sunday morning.

Song by the convention and devotional exercises by C. C. Duckworth.

10:30 a. m.—Singing by the convention.

11:00 a. m.—Address by Rev. C. M. Carpenter.

12:00 m.—Adjournment for dinner one hour and a half.

1:30 p. m.—Reassemble by singing No. 55 in Conventional book.

Report of committee.

Singing by the different choirs until 3:30.

The Conestee people are not expected to furnish dinner for the public, only for the singing choirs.

A. M. PAXTON,
H. A. ORR,
W. C. MCCALL,
Committee.

OF LOCAL INTEREST

The report of the failure of the First-Second National Bank of Pittsburg, the First National Bank of McKeesport, Pa., and the American Waterworks & Guarantee Co., is of more than passing interest to the residents of this county, since all three of these organizations are controlled by Messrs. W. S. and J. S. Kuhn.

These gentlemen have been somewhat interested in a number of industrial ventures in and around Lake Toxaway for the past twelve months, and had their plans materialized this county would have had the biggest electric power plant in this section of the state. Their plans called for the erection of an enormous power plant to develop the many excellent water power sites in and around the Toxaway Company's property for the purpose of furnishing power to the cotton mills and other plants in this state and South Carolina, together with a number of wood-working and furniture factories to be built at Lake Toxaway.

Although these gentlemen have purchased a very small amount of land in that section they hold options on several important power sites and timber lands. It will be recalled that the News carried a story telling about their plans about a year ago. At that time it seemed that there would be no difficulty in financing the project, although it was a monumental undertaking, but since the withdrawal of the engineers engaged in making surveys on the property several months ago it has been an open secret among the well informed that the project would fail for want of the stuff that is said to be at the root of all evil. These gentlemen seem to have started something they cannot finish.

While it is to be regretted that an undertaking that promised so much for this county should fail, it is to be hoped that someone with the ability and financial backing necessary and will take the matter up and carry it through to a successful termination.

It will be recalled that a few years ago two other concerns were greatly interested in this matter and tried to purchase the water power sites on from the Toxaway company. Now that the Kuhns have failed in their project, it may be possible that the Dukes who were interested at one time or some one else, will get behind the matter and push it along.

DEATH OF MRS. REISER

Mrs. H. W. Reiser died at her home on Main street last Wednesday. Funeral services were held by Rev. C. D. Chapman at the house Thursday morning. The body was taken to Pittsburg, Pa., for interment, accompanied by Mr. H. W. Reiser and Miss Amelia Hespenshide, an aunt of the deceased.

Mrs. Reiser came to Brevard about three years ago as Miss Alberta Wischmeier, from Pittsburg. On July 10, 1912, she was married to Mr. Harry W. Reiser, also of Pittsburg, who had come to Brevard and engaged in business here. Their married life was thus lacking one day of being a year in length. Coming south on account of ill health, Mrs. Reiser had gained considerably in strength, but an attack of sickness caused by exposure brought on a rapid decline. She was nearly twenty-five years old. Beside her husband there are no surviving members of her immediate family.

The News wishes to unite with friends here in extending sympathy to the bereaved husband.

A large number of citizens of this county will spend next Sunday in Hendersonville, a number of people having signified their intention of hearing Hon. William Jennings Bryan speak there next Sunday.