

# Sylvan Valley News

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## VETERANS AND DAUGHTERS

We do not wish to enter the province of reporter, but we do wish to record some features and impressions noticed and felt by one of the old soldiers standing in the rear rank that would perchance escape the pen of a reporter not so directly identified.

In the first place the reunion for a few of the last years has been held at Davidson River, but owing to the fact to make the meetings comfortable it required too great an outlay of labor and expense to erect temporary quarters for the gathering, that the camp was induced to return to Brevard where facilities were better provided. This year for the first time the veterans in their organized capacity entered the porches of the memorial library building erected to their memory and honor by the Daughters of the Confederacy. The Daughters assured them that these quarters were their own. The realization of this fact demanded some expression of gratitude. No motion was made; not a word was uttered, not so much as "We thank you." Strange this to a by-stander, but not so to a veteran. He had drifted unawares into the poverty of language, and had his vocabulary teemed with words of richest expression the emotions within would have and did seal his lips. The devotion of a loving daughter! How little, how inadequate the words thanks, gratitude, appreciation, tell the story of a hero's heart. It is unwritten and must so remain.

This reunion in its individuality stands apart from any of its predecessors. There was no formal program rendered. The scenes in the main were impromptu and moved fairly in logical sequence giving interest and pleasure with no lagging moments. The actors were the veterans themselves, save the Rev. Mr. Noywood, who offered the opening prayer. Miss Martha Boswell read Comrade Kern's "Reminiscences of Jackson's Campaign in the Shenandoah Valley" and Miss Anna Jean Gash, president chapter U. D. C., gave out some crosses of honor. Major Hardee of Alabama was orator of the day. (We had to conceal this feature from him to secure his services.) Other veterans contributed to the pleasure and interest of the occasion—Messrs. Hagle of South Carolina, Lance of Bancombe, A. Cannon of Henderson and J. M. Kern and E. J. Wilson.

This episode must be put down as a part of this unique reunion. Comrade Alfred Ledbetter, age ninety-one years, was present to be decorated with the cross of honor. This badge to be legally bestowed must be placed upon the lapel of the veteran's coat by the hands of a daughter of the Confederacy. When his daughter was about to place herself in position to perform this coveted honor, she was approached by her father, Comrade T. L. Gash, with flushed face, eyes bedimmed with obtruding tears, and with a husky voice, choked with emotion, said, "I want to place this on him." As the daughter recoiled in meek submission, the badge was seized and as comrade bedecked comrade the other veterans came to the position of attention and with joyous acquiescence witnessed this open violation of law.

Miss Anna Jean Gash, in the introduction of her decoration remarks, tossed abroad a thought that seemingly fell on good ground. She said the daughters are absorbed in building a monument to the old soldiers; that they wanted no help from them. But the women of the Confederacy, who more than you care for them? A nice companion structure could be reared as a resting place for the weary-worn and stand at the same time a monument to the women of the Confederacy who suffered so acutely in Transylvania county in the sixties.

Comrade Morgan, before the thought had any chance to mature, arose and tendered five dollars to the enterprise and a number of hands for five dollars each went

up. While Comrade Morgan, moved by the magnificent thought of doing honor to the worthy wherever found, covered himself with glory in doing his whole duty by this tender, we, who are in closer relationship and tenderer ties, must borrow of his enthusiasm and far exceed his donation before we can approach his limit of duty done.

The initial step toward making the project a success was taken by appointing Comrade J. A. Miller, empowered to associate with himself other business men who are disposed to make the project a success, a committee which is instructed to formulate a plan, estimate the cost, solicit funds and report progress at will to these headquarters.

It is hoped, it is assured that by united effort on the part of veterans, the town and country people, we can build something commensurate with the respect due our mothers, sisters and many of our wives, that will do credit to contributors and be an ornament to the town.

A BOY OF THE SIXTIES.

## THANKS HIS FRIENDS

Editor Sylvan Valley News:

I wish to thank my many friends for their support in the past primary for clerk of the court. Although I could not get the nomination it does not change me in the least as to being a democrat. I shall do as I always do—vote and work for the democratic ticket.

Very respectfully,  
C. R. SHARP.

## U. D. C. ENTERTAINMENT

"In the Sixties," which was first given under the auspices of the Daughters of the Confederacy in early May, was repeated last Friday night at the Auditorium before a large, and to all appearances, an appreciative audience.

Most of the entertainment was the same as in the former presentation, but there were a few additions to the program. Before the rising of the curtain Mr. A. H. Caldwell played several good selections on the violin, accompanied by Miss Maud Allison on the piano. In the school room scene Miss Mary Jane King sang two solos very sweetly and effectively. Besides these, except for a few substitutions in parts, the programme was practically the same and quite as well rendered. The costumes carried the spectators back to the times before the war, and the large doll, furnished by Mrs. Caldwell, actually dated back to the days of the sixties.

The receipts from sale of tickets amounted to \$53.70, a considerable gain over the former entertainment.

Among the new features was a song and chorus, composed by Miss Annie Gash, and sung to the tune of "John Brown's Body," etc. The words are given below:

TRANSLYVANIA—LAND OF WATERFALLS.

Brevard loafer sittin' on the court house fence,

Brevard loafer sittin' on the court house fence,

Brevard loafer sittin' on the court house fence,

In the land of waterfalls.

Glory, glory, Transylvania,

Glory, glory, Transylvania,

Glory, glory, Transylvania,

In the land of waterfalls.

Candidates a-dating with candy by the pound.—Cho.

Summer boarders coming with the coming of the spring.—Cho.

Camp schools a-camping by the lake and riverside.—Cho.

Automobiles honking on the new paved streets.—Cho.

New depot rising from the ashes of the old.—Cho.

Recorder's court employing men to make for us good roads.—Cho.

Excursion trains a-running from the far and farther south.—Cho.

Uncle Sam a-buying him an Appalachian park.—Cho.

Pisgah Forest saying nothing, only sawing wood.—Cho.

Rockbrook chickens crowing for the rising price of eggs.—Cho.

U. D. C.'s a-working for the Library fund.—Cho.

## FARMERS' INSTITUTE AT SELICA

Three years ago, because of the meagre attendance of the farmers on the annual meetings of the farmers' institutes held in Brevard, construed to be a manifest indifference on the part of those that should have been deeply interested, the institute staff suggested the propriety of trying the country. Selica, through its committee representative applied for future appointments, feeling that if no other advantage be derived than that of social contact with those high up in scientific and progressive development and in getting in elbow-tough with fellow farmers and others of allied industries would not be a vain effort by way of local improvement, should it stop there. The first appointment of 1912 was in numerical attendance a failure, so poor was it that to continue the appointments it was required to make a formal petition promising a minimum attendance. This was done and the institute of 1913 was a great improvement in attendance and enthusiasm. Again to secure the institute for 1914 Selica was required to petition giving some guarantee of success. The object of this note is to insist upon the farmers and their well-wishers to unite with Selica in making the approaching institute a decided success. It costs the people as much money to have no institute as it does to have one or more. The money invested by the state to send these scientific and up to date farmers and instructresses of ideal home life is money well appropriated provided all farmers and their wives put themselves in attitude to receive the benefits.

Now, therefore, let us have a rousing picnic time at Selica graded school house on Thursday, September 3, prox. Let the farmers—all, good, indifferent and Wilson's one-gallus farmers—be there. If they want their homes bettered, brighter, purer, let them bring their wives and daughters along. If they want to be assisted in making our country a fine, sturdy yeomanry, let them bring their sons along. If the ministry of all the churches realize themselves the ordained leaders of the people to higher things, let them come along. If our school teachers, required to give instructions in agriculture, appreciate their calling and privileges, let them come along. The Farmers' Union men, come along. Last but not least, the candidates who have so much at heart, the interests of the dear people, let them come. Whosoever will, let him come. All coming and bringing baskets will afford us all an unprecedented big time. Leave your filthy lucre at home; no collections will be taken.

"Herein fail not."

LOCAL COMMITTEE.

## RECORDER'S COURT

In last Monday's court were the following cases:

State vs. Will Norman, assault with deadly weapon; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

State vs. Carmen Hogsed, trespass: \$5 and costs.

State vs. Collins Loyd, colored, drunk: \$15 and costs.

State vs. Will Jackson, colored, retailing: case dismissed.

State vs. Luther Shaw, colored, retailing: continued.

State vs. Grover Cleveland, colored: put in prison for contempt.

State vs. Joe Little, colored, vagrancy: 30 days; appeal.

State vs. David White, John Doe, and Richard Roe, affray. The last two defendants were Poles and unable to speak English. The case was dismissed for lack of evidence.

## The Twenty Year Test.

"Some twenty years ago I used Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy," writes Geo. W. Brock, publisher of the Enterprise, Aberdeen, Md. "I discovered that it was a quick and safe cure for diarrhoea. Since then none can sell me anything said to be 'just as good.' During all these years I have used it and recommended it many times, and it has never disappointed anyone." For Sale by All Dealers.—Adv.

## A STRANDED AMERICAN

From Miss Alice Kirk to Relatives Now in Europe.

"We suspect that you are wondering how your 'stranded Americans' are making it these days of war. We had been reading the papers, bulletins, etc., but didn't have any uneasiness (only thankfulness that we were not in Austria), until Friday evening, after having spent a delightful day at the Isle of Marken and Vollandam. When we returned to Amsterdam Miss Nelson was told at Cook's office that if we were going to Paris at all we had better get out on the eight o'clock train or be held up there, for Holland had mobilized and all the trains would be used for troops. So we made a grand rush, packed our goods and chattels, ate our dinner and got off on the train.

"We had a time getting our dinner that night. There was much excitement and some of the waiters had to leave that same evening for the front. However, they did their work up to the last. We went through to Paris that night, reaching the city about 6 a. m. Went to a hotel and rested until noon. Miss Nelson went to the American express office and found great excitement there and had difficulty in getting French money. In the afternoon we went to the Louvre art gallery and for a short 'bus ride. Went into a book store, where Miss Nelson tried to get money exchanged. She was told that all trains were to be stopped except for troops and that we couldn't get out of Paris for fifteen days. That was cheering of course!

"That night (Saturday) a bill was issued or posted saying that all foreigners must get out inside twenty-four hours or be tied up indefinitely. In the meantime we had decided on the first train Sunday morning. They told us when we came down to breakfast that that was the last meal that they would serve, as all their waiters, porters, etc., had to leave for war. You see these continental countries have forced service. We had a time getting to the station. No carriages were to be had—drivers all gone. Our hotel porter and another employe helped us and we managed to get our baggage for eleven to the subway.

"Such a mob as there was on these subway trains, everybody pushing and jamming to get on, and we with all our baggage and only one man by that time to help. We finally got to the station. There were porters there, but another jam. It seemed as though everybody was trying to get out of Paris for Callais.

"We at last got on the train, which was crowded. An old German lady traveled with us. She could not speak a word of French or English, and was coming to London. Her son asked us to look after her. Poor old soul. If we hadn't I don't know how she would have gotten through. At Callais we took a boat for Dover, Eng. It is only a short trip, about an hour and a quarter, but it certainly is the worst we ever took. Our boat had no top or canvas around it and the spray dashed over us like a hard rain-storm. We put on our rain-coats, rain-bats and overshoes and kept pretty dry.

"We were extremely fortunate to get to London when we did and to be able to bring our baggage with us, as many of the Americans lost all their luggage and had a much harder time reaching London than we did. Some who left Holland on the next train after ours were forced into rooms at different stations by the soldiers where they were searched by women attendants. One woman on that train said that their party was stopped and searched three different times. They also walked a long distance, and pushed their baggage on a hand-cart to another road.

"Everybody is glad to get to London, many thousand Americans arrived here within two or three days without money, as no one would cash our checks until this morning when the American Express opened for business. Two of

our girls went down long before time to get into line and hold a place for Miss Nelson. The line was four or five deep and extended over two blocks, all waiting to get American gold, as nothing else would be taken. Our party managed to get over \$300 of it, so we are safe for a while at least. The prices are soaring and the English people are very much afraid of a food famine, since they are so isolated from the main continent."

## JAMES MARION WHITMIRE

James Marion Whitmire, about six months before his death, filed the following sketch of his military career with the archives of Transylvania Camp No. 953, U. C. V.

"I was born in Henderson, now Transylvania county, December 11, 1837. February 5, 1857, I was married to Susan R. Kennemur. She having died I married Nancy A. Young. I am the father of nine children, only two of whom are now living. I enlisted in the Confederate service at the old Methodist camp ground July 15, 1861. Soon afterward was mustered in as a private of Company E, 25th Regiment North Carolina Volunteer Infantry. I was in five battles: Seven Pines, Malvern Hill, Fredericksburg, Suffolk and Petersburg. I was captured at Five Forks, Va., March 3, 1865, and imprisoned at Point Lookout. I was promoted to the position of orderly sergeant. He died at his home near Lake Toxaway December 26, 1913, and the day following laid to rest in the old Whitmire graveyard near Rosman.

His civic career was no less honorable than his war record. Duty was the word that ordered and shaped his life. It made him honest, industrious, true to his obligations and exalted his relations to his comrades, his neighbors and his fellow men. The positions he took upon political, moral or religious subjects the consistency of which he never attempted to maintain by wordy arguments, he lived and acted out what he thought to be right. The biography of our fallen comrade, though written on the sands of time only to a closed volume but contains much his few surviving comrades would do well to imitate the few remaining days allotted them and commend the same to their sons. Therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of comrade James Marion Whitmire this camp has sustained an irreparable loss in that his life gave tone and honor to the character of the old soldier both in war and peace; in that a support upon which we could so heavily lean without fear of faltering is removed; in that we are made poorer because a warm heart stung by the memories of suffering and carnage and thus prepared to give that sympathy known only to a soldier, has ceased to throb. We bow in submission knowing the Great Commander of Wars and the King of Peace doeth all things well.

Resolved, That a page in our minutes be dedicated to the memory of our comrade with these resolutions inscribed and a copy of the same be furnished the Sylvan Valley News with the request to publish

T. C. GALLOWAY,

J. M. HARRIS,

Committee.

## GENERAL EDUCATIONAL MEETING

To the meeting of the teachers of the county next Saturday at 10 o'clock the fathers and mothers and all of the others of the school district who are interested in the education of the children are invited with the view of making this a general school "rally" and a "get-together" school meeting. With the parents all interested and co-operating in the work, this can and will be made the best year in the history of our schools. Among those who will take part on the program we mention the following: Major Hardee, J. B. Bridges, Miss Hattie Aiken, C. H. Trowbridge, L. B. Haynes. Everybody come. Time: Saturday at 10 a. m. Place: Brevard graded school.