

# Sylvan Valley News

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## J. W. CLAYTON KILLED

About two o'clock last Sunday afternoon the dead body of James W. Clayton, a citizen of Penrose, was found by three young men who were out chinquapin hunting. The body was lying on the south bank of the French Broad river, a short distance above the Shuford bridge. It was lying face down on the edge of the water, the face buried partly in the sand. Just above the river at this point is a steep bank covered with hemlock bushes and weeds, none of which, according to reliable information, were disturbed by anything like a falling body.

The only mark of violence on the dead man was a small wound on the back of the head, the skull at this place being fractured. The wound was evidently made by some hard or pointed instrument. There were no signs of foot-prints or marks of a struggle either on the spot where the body lay or upon the top of the bank above.

J. W. Clayton was the son of Mrs. — Clayton of Penrose, with whom he lived. He was about thirty-five years of age.

On Saturday Mr. Clayton was in Brevard, leaving here on the 8:20 train. When last seen at Penrose instead of going up the road toward home, he was going down the railroad. Later he appeared at the house of Henry Smith, a colored man, who lives a hundred yards or more from where the body was found. He there made inquiry for Henry Smith, according to a woman at the place, and being informed that Smith was away from home, left the house.

## SUPERIOR COURT

Since the publication of last week's issue of the News the following cases have been disposed of in Superior court:

State vs. John Shelton, Walter Slotton, Columbus Owen, murder. Not guilty.

State vs. Jeff Glazener, carrying concealed weapons; \$10 fine and costs.

State vs. Less O'Neal, murder. Not guilty of murder, but guilty of assault with deadly weapon. Six months on chain gang.

State vs. J. L. Aiken, nuisance. \$5 and costs.

State vs. Marshal Gaston, retailing. This defendant had appealed to Supreme court, but appeal was not perfected. Sentenced six months on county roads.

State vs. J. B. Kelley, forgery. Three months on county roads.

L. G. Galloway vs. Toxaway Tanning Co. Judgment against defendant \$125 and costs.

Cox Hat Co. vs. M. F. Galloway. Judgment affirmed.

R. J. Cook vs. M. F. Galloway. Judgment affirmed.

John H. Roth & Co. vs. Duckworth Drug Co. Judgment against plaintiff for costs.

Fitz Water Wheel Co. vs. Wm. E. Breese. Time to file pleading.

J. L. Aiken vs. W. H. Faulkner. Plaintiff called and failed. Judgment against plaintiff for costs.

J. A. Davidson vs. R. D. Cross et al. Plaintiff takes a non-suit. Judgment against plaintiff for costs.

W. W. Zachary vs. Toxaway Co. Ordered to make heirs party plaintiffs.

Toxaway Co. vs. W. W. Zachary. Ordered to make heirs party defendants.

O. L. Erwin vs. Southern Railway Co. Mistrial ordered.

J. M. Blythe et al. vs. Southern Railway Co. Judgment against defendant for \$200 and costs of action.

Maggie McCall, administratrix of Posey McCall, vs. Southern Railway Co. Judgment for \$1,500. Plaintiff appeals.

## WAR RELIEF FUND

A fund has been started at Brevard Institute for the sufferers from the war in Europe. Here is an opportunity to help the widows, orphans, and homeless in distress.

## THE O'NEAL CASE

A case in court last week exciting an unusual amount of interest was that of the state against Less O'Neal of Quebec for the murder of his stepson, Luther Jones, a boy of about eleven years of age.

The boy died on Thursday, September 3. An autopsy was held the following day by the coroner, who pronounced the death to be peritonitis. Reports of violent treatment of the boy by his stepfather several days before caused strong suspicion that the man had been guilty of an assault which led to the child's death. O'Neal was arrested and lodged in jail.

The case was set to be tried on Thursday afternoon. The difficulty of getting a jury was remarkable. One after another of the men called was rejected for one reason or another. Some were peremptorily challenged by the defense; a few by the state. A few declared that they did not believe in capital punishment. But the great majority said that they had already formed or expressed the opinion that the prisoner was guilty from what they had heard.

After going through the list of regular jurors and the thirty specially summoned, writs had to be issued for the summoning of another thirty. It was late Thursday afternoon before the twelve jurymen were all sworn, and court was adjourned till Friday morning.

W. E. Breese, Jr., assisted the solicitor in the prosecution. Welch Galloway appeared for the defense.

The testimony put forward by the state tended to show that the death of Luther Jones was caused by peritonitis induced by an external blow of violence; that the defendant had admitted in the hearing of certain persons that he had twice kicked the boy. The defense put up no witnesses, but tried to show that there was no evidence of malice in the defendant's mind; that peritonitis might be brought on by many causes, and that there was not sufficient evidence that the prisoner had acted so as to be guilty of the boy's death.

The jury retired about 3:30 Friday afternoon and remained in deliberation the whole of Friday night. Saturday morning they rendered their verdict, which was assault with a deadly weapon.

O'Neal was sentenced to six months on the road.

## LAND TRANSFERS

Following are some recent land transfers in this county:

L. T. Cantrell to B. B. Fisher and James W. Fisher, 100 acres in Hogback township, on Toxaway river.

Sallie Kimsey to C. Grimshawe, 59 acres on Little Gumbottom creek in Hogback township.

E. H. Jennings of Pittsburg, Pa., to C. A. Wood of New York, about 4½ acres at Lake Toxaway.

R. D. Neill and others to Joseph A. Hamlin, a piece of land, being part of the L. C. Neill homestead and part of the C. M. Siniard land, containing a little over two-acres.

W. C. Middleton to J. W. Howard of Florence, S. C., house and lot in South Brevard. Formerly known as Everett Moffett large house. This deal was made through the People's Realty and Insurance Company.

## AUCTION LAND SALE

In addition to the sale of lots from lands of the late C. A. Shuford published last week another sale by auction took place last Saturday. Four lots of the Shuford tract were sold. These lots lie between the road leading past the Marr house and the road by John Garren's, and were numbered 15, 16, 17 and 18.

Lots No 15 and No. 16 were sold to B. P. Merrill of Little River.

No. 17 was sold to Jason Cunningham of Asheville.

No. 18 was sold to S. A. England.

Cole's Hot Blast Heaters make a big reduction in your coal bill—see their advertisement and guarantee.

## SOME ASHEVILLE NEWS

That the present season will see the production of the greatest apple crop in the history of Western North Carolina is the belief of leading agriculturists who have made a thorough canvass of the counties of this section of the state, visiting orchardists, conferring with apple raisers and inspecting orchards. While states of the far south, where cotton is king, doubtless will suffer by reason of the European war, the approaching fall and winter hold no terrors in store for the apple raisers of Western North Carolina, who expect to put a record-breaking crop on the market and who now believe that good prices will prevail.

Seeking to give lumber a credit value in order that the timber interests of this section of the state may not suffer by reason of the closing of foreign ports to United States ships, members of the Western Carolina Lumber and Timber association have memorialized the North Carolina congressmen and senators to have the forest product included in the list of commodities which will be given a staple rating by the government. Tentative plans provide for the appointment of government inspectors of timber whose reports to the government dealing with the quantities and values of the lumber stored will be negotiable, being received at the regional reserve banks as paper bearing the approval of the United States.

Plans are rapidly going forward for the fourth annual Western North Carolina fair, which will be held at this city October 13, 14, 15 and 16. The past week saw the opening of the entry books at the offices of the fair association in Temple Court, Asheville, and that interest throughout this section of the state in the approaching exhibition is keenly evidenced by the large number of entries received. The most attractive premium list in the history of the association has been arranged, the prizes aggregating more than \$3,000. Special attention this year will be given to the agricultural, horticultural and pantry exhibits and present indications are that exhibitors will be received from all of the counties of the western part of North Carolina. For the first time in the history of the association a midway will be provided on an elaborate scale for the benefit of the people who visit the fair with a view to being amused rather than instructed.

With prayer constituting his capital stock and his unwavering faith in divine aid representing his only method of raising funds, Rev. L. B. Compton of Asheville has demonstrated the efficacy of prayer by developing modern plants for the care of unfortunate girls and orphans here. Beginning seven years ago the Herculean task of providing modern rescue homes and orphanages without any financial assistance, Rev. Mr. Compton sought divine aid and through prayer alone his institutions today represent an investment of \$25,000. The growth of the institutions has been phenomenal and the last purchase of Rev. Mr. Compton gave him possession of Slippery Heights, adjoining the Eliada orphanage. Without money he took an option on the land and prayed for funds with which to make the purchase. The day before the option expired he received a check for the amount needed to make the deal from a man of whom he had never heard, residing at Rochester, N. Y. Similar experiences have featured his career as a practical reformer at his local institutions.

Hans C. Meyer, formerly of Hendersonville, where he took a prominent part in the social and business life of that city, has been brought to Asheville from New York to answer to a charge of sending obscene matter through the mail, a true bill having been returned against him at the last term of the United States district court. The young man has given bond for his appearance here in November, when he will be arraigned on a charge of sending improper matter to a well known resident of Hendersonville.

## TEACHERS' MEETING

Following is the program of the second meeting of the teachers' association, to be held in October:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9.

10:00 a. m.—Opening exercises, Miss Georgia Bell.

10:20 a. m.—Primary reading, Miss Irene Montgomery.

10:50 a. m.—Geography, D. F. Giles.

11:30 a. m.—Betterment Association.

12:00 m.—Noon recess.

1:30 p. m.—What have you done to increase your attendance. Round table.

2:30 p. m.—The value of story telling in teaching, Miss Cora Willson.

3:00 p. m.—Drawing, Miss Hattie Aiken.

3:30 p. m.—Educational value of music, Miss Doris Edwards.

FRIDAY EVENING.

Literary program.

Song.

"Life of Alice Cary," by Miss Julia Deaver.

"Nobility," Miss Verna Goode.

"Pictures of Memory," C. J. Ashworth.

Music.

"An Order For a Picture," Miss Edwards.

Piano solo, Miss Ara Davis.

"Leak in the Dyke," Miss Clesse Whitmore.

"Suppose," Spurgeon Ledbetter.

Song: "One Sweetly Solemn Thought"

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10.

9:30 a. m.—Opening exercises, J. B. Bridges.

9:50 a. m.—The country school as an agency in the solution of the farm problem, T. E. Brown.

10:30 a. m.—Child study, value to teachers, Miss Francis McIntosh.

11:00 a. m.—How to make spelling interesting, Luke Osteen.

11:30 a. m.—Helpful hints, T. C. Henderson.

## THE COUNTY HOME

Editor Sylvan Valley News:

The ministerial association notes with pleasure the recommendations of the grand jury with regard to needed improvements at the county home, and trusts same will be faithfully carried out by the commissioners. At our recent visit were glad to see a porch had been added to one of the cabins; but a much more crying need is a cook stove and a safe with wire doors for keeping cooked food in.

It has been suggested that the town and county people have a picnic at the Home in the near future so that all may see its present condition and try and make it more home-like for our aged poor.

Yours sincerely,

C. D. CHAPMAN,  
W. M. ROBBINS,  
E. H. NORWOOD.

## BOY SCOUTS, ATTENTION

Patrol No. 1 and the Junior Scouts will meet at the camp ground on Saturday at 9:00 a. m. Institute Scouts meet every Monday at 9:00 a. m.

E. H. NORWOOD,  
Scout Master.

## CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

A civil service examination will be held in Brevard on October 10 to fill a vacancy occurring in the position of rural carrier at Lake Toxaway.

The compensation of a rural carrier is based upon the length of the route and ranges from \$484 to \$1200 a year.

Applicants must be between the ages of eighteen and fifty-five years.

A rural letter carrier after one year's satisfactory service may be transferred to the position of clerk or carrier in a first or second class post office, to the position of railway mail clerk, or to other positions in the classified service, subject to such examinations as may be required by the civil service rules.

Application forms may be secured by applying at the post office.

## MRS. NORTON SELLS OUT

Mrs. W. H. Faulkner has bought out the millinery stock of Mrs. J. Norton and will continue the business at the same place.

This business change is of unusual interest to the public from the fact of Mrs. Norton's long continuance in millinery work in this place. She came to Brevard nearly twenty years ago, and having established a millinery store soon afterwards has ever since been in that business. In the present store building, which was connected with the old McMinn house, she has served the public for about fifteen years. While merchants came and went, and old stock passed into new hands all around, Mrs. Norton's millinery store remained a seeming fixture. It was like a link connecting the old town with the new. Her withdrawal from business, while not a surprise to some of her friends, will no doubt be such to many of her customers throughout the county.

## INSTITUTE ITEMS

The opening of Brevard Institute is an event in which all our citizens are, or ought to be, deeply interested, as this institution means so much to the town and also to the county. The opening this fall, which took place on Thursday, September 2, was under most promising conditions, and the prospects of the school year have never been better.

The opening exercises were held in the study hall of the new building. Prayer was offered by Rev. E. H. Norwood, followed by a vocal solo from Miss Blair. Mr. C. H. Trowbridge made an address as principal of the Institute. His subject was founded on the first chapter of Daniel, which he applied to present conditions in an interesting way. Several other good talks were made. Among those who had words of encouragement and exhortation to offer were Mrs. T. F. Marr, Rev. W. M. Robbins, Messrs. William and Eugene Allison, and Dr. Cheatham. The two new teachers, Miss Hattie Aiken and Mr. V. D. Peek, also took part in this program of brief talks. Mrs. Fitch Taylor was introduced to the school in a manner appropriate to her work as co-founder of the institution. The closing prayer was made by Rev. W. M. Robbins.

All the teachers were present except Miss Kirk, who arrived at the Institute on Saturday after the opening from a European trip.

In the matter of enrollment of students, the Institute is full to the limits of its present capacity. A few more rooms are in process of preparation in the old building. It has been necessary to decline to receive applicants for admission in some instances. There are now enrolled as boarders and day students about 150, twenty of whom are in the primary department.

While the out of town students come from various parts of this state and some others, many of those enrolled are from Brevard and this county. Following are students from the county: Jacksie McGaha, Adelaide Patton, from Davidson River; Walter, Hazel, Julian and Moller Albert, Frank Carr, William Lyday, Walter Hollingsworth, Annah Nichols, Frank Patton, of Pisgah Forest; Grace Carpenter, Ora McCall, Ronald Wesley, Cleon and Louise Williams, of Rosman; Carrie and Maud McNeely, of Lake Toxaway; Cava McCall, of Little River.

The Institute is preparing an exhibit for the fair at Asheville. There will be exhibits from the domestic art, dressmaking, primary, and agricultural departments. Some very good corn was produced by the agricultural department this year, and an interesting experiment was made in the production of millet. This experiment was based on the idea of utilizing the acidity of the soil instead of counteracting it, and the experiment seems to be justified in the quality of millet produced.