

S. P. Ravenel

BLUE RIDGE ENTERPRISE.

A Weekly Journal for Home and Farm; giving reliable information of this new country.

VOL. I.

HIGHLANDS, MACON COUNTY, N. C., APRIL 19, 1883.

NO. 13.

BLUE RIDGE ENTERPRISE,
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING AT
HIGHLANDS, MACON CO., N. C.,
**THE HIGHEST TOWN EAST OF
THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.**

A. F. CLARK, Editor and Proprietor.

Terms, Payable in Advance:
One Copy 1 year, postpaid, \$1.50
" 6 months " " 1.00
" 3 months " " .75
" 1 month " " .50

The **Enterprise** tells all about the
BLUE RIDGE COUNTRY
OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The Switzerland of America!
Its pure mountain air, cold springs, grand
scenery, cool summers, mild winters; a
paradise for the HEALTH SEEKER and TOUR-
IST; a land of rest for EXHAUSTED WORKERS,
and a garden for the INVALID; a garden for the
FLORIST and BOTANIST; the delight of the
MINERALOGIST, HORTICULTURIST, DAIRYMAN,
and BEE-KEEPER.

Publisher's Announcements

ADVERTISING RATES:

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" " " 6 "	5.00
" " " 12 "	8.00
" " " 18 "	10.00
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" " " 36 "	16.00
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Half Column, 3 Months,	12.00
" " " 6 "	18.00
" " " 12 "	28.00
" " " 18 "	38.00
" " " 24 "	48.00

These rates include copy of paper free while advertisement is running.

The BLUE RIDGE ENTERPRISE is on sale at the Postoffice and Stores.

Local contributions solicited from every neighborhood of the Blue Ridge country.

Farm produce, at cash prices, taken for subscriptions to the BLUE RIDGE ENTERPRISE.

All communications intended for publication should be received by Monday to insure publication.

Information about mines, timber, fruit, grain and other products of the country wanted by the BLUE RIDGE ENTERPRISE.

All communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name of the writer to insure publication. The name of the writer will be withheld from publication when so desired.

Correspondence solicited from every neighborhood. Give us the news of your section, country friends. Any items of interest will be gladly received. A few lines on a postal will often contain matter that will interest thousands of readers.

The Blue Ridge Enterprise has an extensive circulation being sent to subscribers in nearly every State in the Union; also in the British Provinces and England. For this reason business men of every description will find it a valuable medium of advertising.

Sample Copies of the BLUE RIDGE ENTERPRISE will be sent free to any person. Any one intending to get up a club or canvass for subscriptions can have sample copies sent to the persons they desire to interview, by sending the names to this office. Any person sending us a club of 5 subscribers at a dollar and a half each will be entitled to a free copy of the paper for one year.

We want an active and pushing man or woman to act as agent in canvassing for subscriptions and advertising for the BLUE RIDGE ENTERPRISE, in every neighborhood in Western North Carolina. We especially desire to procure a permanent agent in every Court House town. Those willing to take such agencies will please forward their address, with reference, and we will state terms, etc., on which we are willing to engage their services.

GEO. A. JONES, RALPH W. SILER,
JONES & SILER,
Attorneys at Law,
Franklin, N. C.
Special attention given to the collection of claims, investigating titles to real estate, conveyancing, etc.

DOBSON'S MILLS.
We are prepared to furnish Sawed Lumber of hard and soft woods at our Mills on the Sugar Fork, one mile and a half west of Highlands, on short notice and at reasonable prices.

SPECIAL RATES
made on large orders for Bill Lumber. Customers can have grinding done at our Grain Mill with promptness, and satisfaction guaranteed.
We tender our thanks to friends and patrons for their liberal support in the past, and by strict attention to business and careful efforts to please our customers, hope to secure a continuance of their favors.
J. W. DOBSON & SON.

Highlands Nursery.
The subscribers offers for sale for the Spring of 1883 a quantity of well grown Apple trees of the best varieties for this section.
Selected Trees 15c. Each, Per 100 \$10.
No agents employed. Come to the Nursery and get YOUR trees fresh from the ground.
144 S. T. KELSEY, Highlands, N. C.

A DOMESTIC DITTY.

Three carpets hung waving in the breeze,
Abroad in the breeze as the sun went
down;
And three husbands, with patches of dirt
on their knees,
Whacked whacks that were heard for
miles up and down.
For men must work and women must clean,
And the carpets be beaten, no matter how
mean,
While the neighbors do the bosing.
Three housewives leaned out of their win-
dows raised—
Of their windows raised, where the light
streamed in;
And they scrubbed and scrubbed, till their
heads grew dazed.
For their ears were filled with a horrible
din.
For the pots will fall, and kettles go bang,
And boilers refuse in the attic to hang,
While the husbands do the swearing.
Three husbands went out in the hay mows
to hide—
In the haymows to hide, where their
wives never looked.
Each said, as he rolled himself o'er on his
side,
"I guess I will snooze, for I know I am
booked.
For men may swear, but women must dust;
And before I move that stove that I must
"I'll stay right here till morning!"
Three judges sat on their benches to judge
Three cases that came from a house-cleaning
row.
Three parties asserted they never would
budge,
But "wanted divorces right here and
right now."
So the men went off and the women went
home,
And hereafter will do their house-cleaning
alone,
While their former partners snicker.

"HIGHLANDS" AGAIN.

A LETTER FROM REV. DR. MILLER.

The Sanitarium of the Continent.

CHARLOTTE JOURNAL.

The facts, presented in my circular relating to this extraordinary place, were obtained, partly, by personal observation for several years, but chiefly, from information given me by the band of Northern colonists referred to, and by those who have resided at Highlands from its beginning, until now.

Its altitude, according to the measurement, last summer, of Prof. Gibbs, of Charleston, is 4,000 feet; according to the measurement of another Professor, from another point, 4,400 feet.

That "flowers bloom in mid-winter," may be witnessed at any time, by inspecting the beautiful flower-plot in open air, in front of the fine residence of S. P. Ravenel, Esq.;—whence, fragrant specimens have been sent me, in letters, at different times during this winter.

The following statements are taken from the pamphlet of Mr. S. T. Kelsey, the founder of Highlands:

"As the Blue Ridge approaches its south-western terminus, it rises with its outlying spurs to the greatest average height near the point of intersection of the State lines of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, and to the northward of this point, spreads out into an undulating area—Highlands—embracing about 200,000 acres of land, at an average altitude of about 4,000 feet above the ocean. The climate with reference to agriculture, is all that can be desired. While not so damp as to be injurious to the most sensitive system, it is sufficiently moist to carry on vegetable growth with remarkable regularity, even in the occasional absence of showers. A drought, to materially injure seasonably planted crops, has never been known, while the character of the soil and subsoil prevents damage to growing crops from excessive rains. Rains are, probably, nowhere more evenly distributed throughout the seasons, and violent storms of wind are unknown, while sleet storms occur very rarely. Lawns and pastures keep their rich, green color during the drier seasons,—an invaluable consideration for ornamentation or profitable grazing. Not only is the climate favorable to vegetable growth, but it is equally favorable to health and vigor of man and beast; the extremes of heat and cold being avoided, owing to our altitude and latitude. And the farmer, grazier, fruit-grower, dairyman and housekeeper, alike find themselves enabled to accomplish more here than elsewhere, in the Northern, Southern or Western States. We have few days in winter so cold, that out-door labor is unpleasant. The mercury rarely falls lower than five degrees above zero, and the ground is never frozen more than a few days at a time. We rarely have snow over four to six inches in depth, and it seldom remains more than a week. The relief from severe winds affords great satisfaction to former residents of Western prairie. The climate of Highlands is unsurpassed in the United States for successful fruit-growing. The winters are so mild, that the trees are not injured by severe freezing and remain healthy and thrifty to good old age. There is along the slopes of the Blue Ridge, a belt from 100 to 300 feet above the valleys, where Spring and Fall frosts do not occur. Vegetation of all kinds

within the limits of this zone, is untouched by frost, and such is its protective influence that Isabella, the most tender of all native grapes, has not failed to produce abundant crops in twenty-six successive years. Nor has fruit of any kind ever been known to be killed within the Thermal Belt. The late Nicholas Longworth, of Cincinnati, said: "Were I young again, on the slopes of the Blue Ridge I would plant the vine and make my fortune." There are large quantities of cheap land within the no-frost belt, that can be utilized for fruit raising. Highlands is the natural business centre for a large section of country. The town occupies a beautiful undulating plat, just at the foot of Stooly Mountain. The streets are planned with reference to the surface, so that miles of pleasant drives will be secured, sometimes straight and sometimes winding, but as nearly level as desirable.

There is great abundance of water power in this region, and in every direction from the village. For good sleep, good appetite, and good digestion, we unreservedly commend this country, and whoever enjoys these blessings, and breathes life-giving air, and drinks the best of water cannot long remain an invalid. [Here follow testimonials from distinguished physicians.] The following is from the pen of the lamented Dr. G. W. Kibbee, the inventor of the fever cot, whose heroic efforts to stay the yellow fever at New Orleans, are well known. He had traveled extensively and resided in different States including the Pacific slope, and his critical observations are worthy of a careful study; he says: "Owing to its being at the South-eastern premises of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the town of Highlands, Macon county, N. C., offers natural inducements to the health seeker, that can be found in no other part of the United States, southern California not excepted. It is situated on an undulating plain, whose general level is about 400 feet above the ocean with mountain peaks all around, some of which shoot 1000 to 1200 feet. The abruptness of the ascent to this extended elevated region, places it at once in the upper strata of air, high above the malarial influences of the low lands surrounding it. These circumstances combine to give Highlands, a mild, temperate moisture in the atmosphere, that is peculiarly soothing to the irritated serous surfaces of the lungs of consumptives, and quieting to excited nervous systems, giving an exemption from colds, hay fever, catarrh, and other annoying ailments. The healing, soothing qualities of this atmosphere are entirely unknown to debilitated persons who remain in the ordinary atmosphere of the United States, the hygrometry of which is so variable. This evenness of temperature and moisture extends through the whole year, making the climate the best winter resort for consumptives and dyspeptics, from either North or South, that can be found on this continent and probably the whole world, as I know of no spot on earth, containing all the advantages of this Southern most elevated point of the Blue Ridge."

Dr. H. P. Gatchell, formerly Professor in the Cincinnati Medical College, states: "When two members of my own family were attacked by pulmonary consumption they were ordered to the mountains of North Carolina. Highlands is situated upon a plateau 4,000 feet above the ocean level. There is no other plateau this side the base of Rocky Mountains, of equal altitude and extent; no other capable of sustaining any considerable population. The soil like that of most of the flat ridges and mountain tops of North Carolina, in general is very fertile. This high, cool land has its own mountain peaks rising above the general surface, and contributing by condensation of clouds that often rest on their summits to the numberless springs, which are sources of innumerable streams of clear, cold, soft water, tenanted by myriads of speckled trout. The summers of this region are delightful and its winters are mild, as compared with those of the more Northern States. The summer mean of Highlands is between 66 and 67 degrees; its winter mean between 34 and 35 degrees. Highlands is the best place of resort for consumptives as yet known in the United States. Physicians have at last discovered the mistake they made, in sending consumptives to Minnesota and other states in a high latitude to die. Highlands is much more favorable to invalids than Colorado with its variable and extreme climate. The total mortality for California is twenty-five per cent. greater than the average for the United States. Diseases of the nervous system, especially apoplexy, paralysis, and insanity, prevail to an extent unknown elsewhere, and malarial disorders occur at an altitude of 9,000 feet. Florida is, on the whole, in consequence of combined heat and humidity, and intense malarial influence, the most trying of the Gulf or Atlantic climates. The number of deaths from malarial diseases in Texas far exceed that of any other State, Florida excepted."

Prof. Guyot, who visited this section repeatedly, years ago, states: "The climate in this elevated region is truly delightful. In summer, the temperature scarcely ever rises above eighty degrees, the nights are cool, and the mildness of

that healthy, bracing air, is both invigorating and exceedingly pleasant. Even in mid-winter, snow remains but a short time on the ground, and the summits of the high mountain peaks are never covered throughout the winter with a cap of snow. While the nights and early part of mid-summer days are cloudless and beautiful, about noon thick clouds may suddenly mount up to the zenith, or gather about the highest peaks, and copious rain fall for an hour or two, the sky then becoming clear and cloudless again. Both showers and cloud-mists on the mountains contribute to render it the best grass region in the South, and one of the best in the whole country."

Prof. Richard Owen, M. D., late State Geologist of Indiana, visited this section several years ago. He says: "From Whiteside mountain, (four and a half miles northeast of Highlands) the town of Walhalla can be distinctly seen in a clear day; indeed, there is a prospect all around, to at least double that distance, or about sixty miles where other ranges of mountains show themselves. The whole view is as fine as any I ever recollect seeing, except, perhaps, in Switzerland, even finer, I think, than from the Catskill mountains, or from the Rocky mountains in New Mexico, or from the Sierra Madre, near Monterey, in Mexico. There are no miasmatic diseases; chills and fever are unknown; physicians have but little to do, and drugs are scarce. During over six weeks of constant riding, I was frequently overtaken by rain, and had seldom an opportunity of getting my clothing thoroughly dry; yet, I never caught cold, or experienced any disadvantage to health."

Other interesting testimonies could be cited, verifying the statements in my Circular, but these are sufficient.

The impudent anonymous effusion, assailing the Circular, (in the *New South's* issue of December 31st, but not seen till to-day,) is beneath notice.

A. W. MILLER.
Charlotte, N. C., Jan. 30, '83.

FACETIE.

Remarkable Occurrence.

An Arkansas local sologuize thus: Some of our exchanges are publishing a curious item to the effect that a horse in Iowa pulled the plug out of a bung-hole of a barrel for the purpose of slaking his thirst. We do not see anything extraordinary in the occurrence.

Now, if the horse had pulled the barrel out of the bung-hole and slaked his thirst with the plug, or if the plug had pulled the horse out of the barrel and slaked his thirst with the bung-hole, or if the bung-hole had pulled the horse out of the barrel, or if the barrel had pulled the horse out of the bung-hole and slaked his thirst with the plug, or if the plug had pulled the horse out of the barrel and slaked his thirst with the bung-hole, or if the bung-hole had pulled the horse out of the barrel, or if the barrel had pulled the horse out of the bung-hole and slaked his thirst with the plug, or if the plug had pulled the horse out of the barrel and slaked his thirst with the bung-hole, or if the bung-hole had pulled the horse out of the barrel, or if the barrel had pulled the horse out of the bung-hole and slaked his thirst with the plug, or if the plug had pulled the horse out of the barrel and slaked his thirst with the bung-hole, or if the bung-hole had pulled the horse out of 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