

THE HIGHLANDER,

MACON COUNTY AND WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA ADVERTISER.

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HIGHLANDS, MACON COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 1885.

No. 4.

THE HIGHLANDS OF THE BLUE RIDGE AS A FARMING REGION.

We have sometimes heard it said that this is not a farming country, and many of the people of the broad acres of level land in the low country treat as absurd the idea of farming up here. If by the remark is meant that the land in these mountain districts suitable for arable cultivation is limited compared to the extent of surface, it is correct. But if the assertion is based on the assumption that farming cannot be carried on with pleasure and profit among the mountains and valleys as high up as Highlands, it is altogether a mistake, and not founded on facts. And this we maintain from our own observation during the few months we have resided in Highlands. That men may have tried farming here and failed is quite likely, and the same may be said of every section of the United States. Our observation is that the soil and climate here are well suited for a great variety of crops—that good crops are grown—that farmers who have faith in their business and attend to it have made a comfortable living for years, raise fine crops, and as the roads and markets improve do better and better every year, and with as few discomforts as in any other country. The soil varies in quality, and there is no doubt some poor farms, and rocky and rough land with steep hill sides that should never be touched by the plow. But we have seen some very pretty farms and snug homesteads, with excellent growing crops of rye, oats, corn, buckwheat, millet, potatoes, etc., with fine springs and streams of clear and pure water for the family and for stock. There is not only variety in soil but variety in location, which require different modes of management and cropping. It is generally admitted that sheep and cattle do well in the mountains—that grass grows luxuriantly, and that there is no better country for fruit. Rye and buckwheat do well. Oats, we understand, are liable to rust, and wheat the same. But as the clearings become larger, and more suitable varieties sown, this may be avoided. Potatoes are grown in great abundance, and root crops of all kinds to perfection. Gardening is pleasant and profitable. For corn, the Highlands cannot compete with the low country. Nevertheless we have seen some very fine fields of corn, with two or three ears on a stalk, and these standing from ten to thirteen feet high. It has been the practice in the mountains to raise hogs at little expense, allowing them to range in the woods and get fat on the mast in the fall, with a few bushels of corn to finish off, and harden the flesh. In fact, there are hogs running at large which are practically wild, a lot belonging to a farmer near Highlands being to his knowledge over five years old. It should be remembered that the crops here are seldom or never devastated by insects—that the potato bug is unknown, and the mosquito very rarely seen; that the winters are mild, summers not too hot, and destructive storms rare. And farm products bring good prices, as will be seen by our market report. We know of no better country where the industrious and capable laboring man, with or without capital, can make for himself and family a comfortable home on land.

Our Clear Creek correspondence will appear next week—crowded out.

Mr. Jones of Brooklyn started for home yesterday morning by way of Franklin and Asheville.

Dr. Frost made a trip to Franklin this week.

Mrs. Davis' boarding house in Highlands is full to overflowing.

Mr. H. M. Bascom is spending his time at the gold diggings at Georgetown this week.

Rev. Mr. Fogartie has gone to attend the meeting of the Presbytery.

Col. Yates, of the U. S. G. S., after a very severe injury to his ankle from his horse falling on it, three weeks ago, is now able to get around on foot.

At the Literary Society's meeting last week, Miss Symonds' singing, and distinct enunciation—so rare with singers, were much admired.

The town of Franklin was the scene of a little excitement last Tuesday evening about seven o'clock, the prisoners in the gaol having broken out. It appears that Lombard, the man who was convicted of robbing Mr. Cleaveland's store in Highlands, had by some means procured a plank, by which he pried a door open, and while the prisoners were being waited on by the gaoler's son, they rushed out and ran for it. Lombard and a mulatto named Jim Siler, in prison for poisoning a family with "Rough on Rats," were soon overtaken and brought back, but Martin, a moonshiner, escaped.

The vacant ground near the Presbyterian manse presents quite a military appearance with the line of white tents and the stars and stripes floating over the encampment of the U. S. G. S. party.

At the regular meeting of the Temperance Union, held last Tuesday evening, the attendance was not large. The assembly was entertained by excellent music and recitations. Mr. White read some statistics showing the progress of Prohibition in Kansas, and Mr. Kelsey and Dr. Anderson gave five minute speeches.

We direct attention to the advertisement of the opening of the Presbyterian Church, which will take place on Sunday, the 13th of September. All persons are cordially invited to attend the services.

At Mr. Rideout's store a monstrous Sunflower, of the Russian variety, 12½ inches in diameter, grown in Highlands, is on exhibition.

On the farm of Henry Wright, in Smith's Bridge Township, is a stalk of corn with six ears, and another with five ears—evidently a sport, as the ears are at the top of branching stalks.

Meteorological Observations at Highlands for the week ending Aug. 25, '85. Miss Mary Chapin, Observer.

Date	Temperature	Rel'Ve	Rain-fall		
	Mean	High't	Low't	U'ly	
Aug. 19	67.8	77	63	62.3	Clear
20	66	81	58	64.2	Clear
21	68.2	85	60	62.7	Clear
22	67.2	85	57	79.5	Clear
23	67	80	58	82	l.r. Fair
24	65	85	61	74.5	Clear
25	72	86	65	75.7	Clear
Week	67.6	86	57	71.5	

HORSE COVE CORRESPONDENCE.

Things are looking quite lively in the Cove at present. Mayor Hill of Highlands is rapidly pushing the work on his new residence at this place.

Messrs. Perry & Becknell, of South Carolina, have rented the saw mill of Mr. F. G. Hill at this place, where they are making as good lumber as can be found in Western North Carolina. They are both enterprising, energetic young men, and will succeed in their undertaking beyond a doubt.

The Misses Lewis and Mr. Zeb. Alley have returned from their trip to Tullulah Falls.

The road from the Cove to the Georgia line, under the supervision of Mr. James Zachary, is being put in excellent condition.

Our district school commenced last Monday morning, with Miss Fannie M. Thompson as teacher. Miss Thompson is an accomplished young lady, and will certainly achieve the success which she deserves.

VISITORS IN HIGHLANDS.

ARRIVALS AT HIGHLANDS HOUSE SINCE LAST WEEK.

Theo. Melchers, Louis Melchers, Herman Bischoff, and Theo. Bollman, Charleston, S. C. C. D. Bogart, Mrs. Bogart, Chattanooga, Tenn. D. C. Cunningham, Franklin, N. C. J. E. Jones, Brooklyn, N. Y. L. H. Burch, Athens, Ga. Capt. J. C. Turner, Clarksville, Ga. Frank L. Maguire, Mechanicsburg, Ohio.

DEDICATION.

The First Presbyterian Church OF HIGHLANDS

Will be dedicated on the second Sunday of September, 1885.

All persons are cordially invited to attend the services, at 11 a.m.

Rev. A. W. Miller, D.D., of Charleston; Rev. W. H. Davis, of Brevard; Rev. James E. Fogartie, of Highlands; and perhaps other ministers, will be present.

A BIG SNAKE.—Mr. G. Thompson of Horse Cove, showed us the other day the skin of a rattlesnake he had killed on Tuesday last on the Cashier's Valley road, two miles from the Cove. The snake was 4 ft. 9 in. long, measured 4 inches around the thickest part, weighed 8 lbs., and had eleven rattles and a button. It had the appearance of having lost some of its rattles.

Business Notices.

The Virginia Brogans At RIDEOUT'S.

Napoleon Boots At RIDEOUT'S.

DOCTOR KINNEBREW,

After Sep. 1, 1885, will be found day and night over the post office at Franklin.

HERE WE ARE, RIGHT END UP WITH care, and desire to assure our customers that "Enterprise" has not left Highlands—that's a myth. Don't you believe it. We are doing a better business than ever, and are head quarters for shoes, boots, jeans, and anything else you want to see in a village store. 10,000 lb. Wool wanted. Bring us your trout.—RIDEOUT & Co.

A fine lot of Hamburg Edgings and Laces at RIDEOUT'S.

We want more wool and beeswax—RIDEOUT & Co.

Let Me Assure You That

RIDEOUT & CO

In Highlands, Corner of MAIN AND FOURTH STREETS,

IS HEAD-QUARTERS

For Hats, Georgia Checks,

JEANS, CLOTHING

Boots and Shoes.

Besides, constantly on hand, a general line of

DRY GOODS,

AND THE BEST OF

GROCERIES.

WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED FROM

RICHMOND, Va.,

A full Fall and Winter Supply of the Best

Boots and Shoes

INCLUDING THE

Virginia Brogan

AND

Napoleon Boot,

ALL AT LOWEST PRICES!

--No matter what others offer, you--

--may miss it by buying before--

--examining the Largest--

--and Finest Stock of--

--Goods in this--

Section of Western North Carolina.

Highlands Insurance AGENCY

Is connected with only First-class Companies. T. BAXTER WHITE, Agent.

HIGHLANDS MILLS,

WILLIAM PARTRIDGE, Prop.

CASH PAID FOR GRAIN.

Wheat, Buckwheat and Rye Flour kept for Sale.

A GOOD ASSORTMENT

OF

GROCERIES

AT

W. B. CLEAVELAND'S

HIGHLANDS HOUSE,

HIGHLANDS, MACON CO., N. C.

Health Resort for Winter and Summer.

Altitude nearly 4,000 feet--The Land of the Sky.

The health-giving power of our pure air, spring water, and grand scenery, has no equal, Winter or Summer. Invalids who go to Florida in winter seeking health, will do well to stop here and get it; also better fare at less than half the cost.

Our table is supplied with the best the markets afford, cooked with the best of skill.

We have kind and attentive waiters, and take pleasure in caring for our guests. The sick receive special attention.

Terms low.

JOSEPH FRITTS, Proprietor.

OLDEST HOUSE In Highlands.

The Best of Food Products.

FINEST BRANDS

OF

COFFEES and TEAS.

M'LEAN'S FLOUR.

Staple Hardware.

HATS, BOOTS & SHOES.

Mayer & Grosh's Pocket Cutlery.

DR. HARTER'S FAMILY MEDICINES

Agent for John Wannamaker's

Custom & Ready-made CLOTHING.

T. BAXTER WHITE, HIGHLANDS, N. C.

J. M. ZACHARY, Surgeon Dentist.

BOOK & JOB PRINTING At THE HIGHLANDER Office!