

THE HOUCK REUNION.

A Great Occasion—Five Generations of One Family Present.

(Hickory Times-Mercury.)

One of the largest and happiest family reunions we ever had the pleasure to witness, was on Saturday, Dec. 6th, 1913, and by the way, our birthday.

It was a reunion of the Houck family and was celebrated at the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Poovey. There were 75 present, and they were all related, either, by blood or marriage, except about five or six of us, and they seemed so nice and clever that we wanted to claim kin, too.

There were five generations of one family represented, grandma Houck and down to the great, great, great grand child. And to see her and the child was a beautiful as well as a touching scene. A rare privilege in this day and generation in fact, it was a beautiful group of children and grand children, all so happy and pleasant. As one expressed it, "it was a healthy hearty and happy family."

It was the family of Mr. Leander Houck and wife, Mrs. Annie Catherine Houck and their children and grand children. For the benefit of these grand children, we will give the following dates of births, marriages and deaths:

Leander Houck was born June 18th, 1815, and died April 7th, 1876, aged 63 years, 9 months and 19 days.

Annie Catherine Link was born July 6th, 1825, making her on the day of the celebration, 88 years and 5 months old.

Leander Houck and Annie Catherine Link were married Nov. 8th, 1842, 71 years and 28 days to this celebration. They lived together as husband and wife 36 years, 4 months and 29 days.

To this happy union were born 12 children, 7 sons and 5 daughters, all living, the youngest being about 42 years old; and they were all present except three, two sons and one daughter. Below is the names of the children and the number of their children.

Miss Martha E. Houck married Julius Poovey. They have 8 children and 28 grand children.

John M. Houck married Miss Caroline Puette and they have 4 children and 15 grand children and one great grand child.

Robert C. Houck married Miss Belle Hood. They have 8 children and 30 grand children.

Henry L. Houck married Miss Caroline Bowman. They have 2 children and 5 grand children.

Frank C. Houck married Miss Martha Hoyle. They have 2 children.

Rev. W. Kelley Houck married Miss Nina Nelson. They have 8 children and 4 grand children.

Miss Mary S. Houck married Geo. Rob't Powell. They have 12 children and 9 grand children. She lives in Colorado.

Miss Laura J. Houck married Ell Kerlee. They have 5 children.

Walter Houck lives in California. He married Miss Josephine Corear and has 5 children.

Miss Annie Houck married A. L. Lefevers. They have 4 children and one grand child.

Miss Ella Houck married W. E. Lefevers. They have 6 children.

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MAKES MONEY RAISING HIS OWN MEAT.

(Wadesboro Ansonian.)

The Ansonian has always contended that it doesn't pay farmers or many other people to depend upon Western farmers to raise their corn and meat for them, not even if it could be shipped here without any freight charges. Many farmers and cornclub boys too, have shown that corn can be grown here for a cost of 50 cents per bushel or even less. Now here is an instance of a town man buying all the feed, and made meat less than he could buy it in the market. Mr. W. G. Covington bought two pigs last year, an Essex and a Red Jersey, both good blooded stock. He killed them a few days ago and, after being dressed, the two weighed 736 pounds. The two pigs cost him \$9 and he fed them exactly \$51.70 worth of millfeed and corn meal mixed. His meat is worth at least \$75, or ten cents a pound, while it has cost him less than 7 cents per pound. Now suppose he had fed them corn which he had raised at a cost of less than 50 cents per bushel, his meat then would have cost him less than 5 cents per pound. Depending on our Western friends makes our living come high—too high for anything less than 20-cent cotton.

A GOOD PROPOSITION.

(Charlotte Observer.)

The Wilmington Star makes the interesting announcement that a number of Chicago capitalists and business men have formed a strong company for the purpose of undertaking extensive developments in the Wilmington section. It grows out of the corn show held in Wilmington last Fall. The Western people were struck with the possibilities of this section over the Middle West as a corn producing country. The Chicago company has not yet stated what section it will select for its development work, but The Star says the probabilities are that it will operate in the Wilmington territory, that its operations will be strictly along agricultural lines and that it will develop a large area of fine farming lands which it will colonize with thrifty German farmers from the Middle West. This is moving along the right lines. The Chicago people are doing business under the name of the North Carolina Company and have an office in Wilmington. They will find splendid opportunities in this State for land development and the colonization of the class of people they propose to send here. It is the Americanized farmer from the West that North Carolina wants. We have the land for him.

During the holidays a white man, watchman at a furniture factory in High Point was shot and killed by a negro. The negro was fireman at the plant and was keeping fire during the holiday recess and the watchman came around and showed him considerable money. The negro hid behind a box car and shot the watchman and robbed him. A mob formed and was about to lynch the negro when he was taken to Greensboro for safe keeping.

The greatest conundrum is: "Is life worth living?" We all have to give it up.

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COUNTY CORRESPONDENTS

Items From Our Regular Correspondents and Neighboring County Papers.

ROCK CREEK ITEMS.

Our school has suspended one and perhaps two weeks for the holidays in order for the patrons of the school to build another room to our present building for the accommodation of our large attendance of pupils.

Our teacher Miss Ella Day underwent a very successful operation today at the home of Miss Margaret Williams. The operation was the removal of an abnormal growth from her left shoulder, performed by Drs. Corpening and Moore of Granite Falls.

Mr. Will Porch has moved his family to Rhodhiss, where they expect to work in the cotton mill this winter.

Mr. Cavanaugh Flowers has sold his farm and will sell his personal property Saturday. He expects to move to Virginia.

Our Sunday School is progressing nicely at this place under the management of our superintendent, Mr. N. W. Williams.

The general health of our community at present is very good, as there is scarcely any sickness at this writing.

Our boys seem to have the Virginia fever at present. Mr. Julius Haas and family have recently moved there.

RATTLE HEAD.

HUDSON NEWS.

Mrs. John Hickman visited relatives at Granite Falls during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Goodrich spent the holidays in Hickory.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sullivan have been spending the holidays with relatives here.

Christmas passed off very quietly. There were Christmas trees at the Methodist and Lutheran churches, which were largely attended and contained many pretty and appropriate gifts. Both Sunday Schools rendered good programs.

On Sunday, the 28th inst., the children and grandchildren of Mr. M. M. Throneburg gave him a surprise dinner. After Sunday School two of his sons went in with him and entertained him so well in the sitting room that he didn't know what was going on in the cooking department, where the ladies were busy preparing and arranging the many good things brought from their several homes. At 12:30 p. m. he was called to dinner. Entering the dining room he found a long table surrounded by children and grandchildren who had gathered without his knowing it. When he had somewhat recovered from his surprise, all were seated, thanks were given and everybody got busy. Their were eighteen present, as follows: Mr. M. M. Throneburg, Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Throneburg and children, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Throneburg, Mr. and Mrs. K. P. Throneburg and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Hickman and children, Miss Essie Justice and Master Ira Justice.

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A health magazine has a fine article on "What and When to Eat." The when never troubles us, its the what.

LOCALS AND PERSONALS.

Items of Interest to The People of Lenoir and Caldwell County.

Mr. A. G. Foard and wife went to Statesville Friday.

Miss Sadie Jones came home from Raleigh for the holidays.

Prof. James R. Conley is home from Durham for the holidays.

Miss Celeste Henkel is visiting her sister Mrs. Wadsworth in Charlotte.

Mr. Sam Hall of Charlotte came up to spend Christmas day with home folks going back Friday.

Mr. Jeff B. Courtney, who is in business in Petersburg, Virginia, spent Christmas with his parents.

Col. David Farthing Clarke came down from Boydton, Va to visit relatives and friends during the holidays.

Christmas day was by long odds the most disagreeable day of the winter, as far as weather is concerned.

Misses Eleanor and Louise Clarke went to Statesville Friday to visit their father and are expected back to Lenoir today.

Mr. J. S. Adams has recently returned from Valmead, near Lenoir, to his old home near Ready Branch—Wilkes Patriot.

Mr. Ralph P. Conley of Charlotte came up Christmas day to visit his mother, Mrs. H. P. Conley and to enjoy a few days hunting.

Mr. Will Munday and wife of Valmead, visited relatives at Iron Station during the holidays, going down the day after Christmas.

Mr. E. F. Reid and wife and Mr. R. L. Gwyn and wife attended the Calvert Beall wedding at Linwood Saturday going down Friday.

Mr. B. M. Childress, of Patterson, Caldwell county, is spending some time in Elkin with his brother, Mr. J. E. Childress.—Elkin Tribune.

Mr. C. J. Cottrell and wife of Boone, who have been visiting their son, Mr. Hill Cottrell here for a few days, went to Granite Falls Friday to visit relatives.

President Minge, of the Virginia-Carolina Railroad Co., has announced his intention building a through trunk telephone line along their new railroad from Abingdon to Todd and from the latter place to Blowing Rock.—Wilkes Patriot.

The business men of Lenoir all express themselves as well pleased with the nice holiday trade all enjoyed. It was heavier than ever before—notwithstanding the fact that much holiday stuff was shipped in by express and parcel post.

Many people think that an open bar room would be preferable to the present mode of getting liquor into towns like Lenoir. The amount of the stuff shipped into the dry state of North Carolina is amazing and the smaller towns come in for their full share of it.

Miss Helen Cunningham, of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, who was seriously injured in an automobile wreck a few years ago, is visiting Mrs. G. F. Harper during the holidays. She has been teaching in Rocky Mount as a substitute for her sister for several months.

EIGHTY PERSONS CRUSHED TO DEATH.

Calumet, Mich., Dec. 26.—

Eighty persons, mostly children were killed tonight at a Christmas celebration of copper mine strikers in an Italian hall because of a needless panic caused by a false alarm of fire.

While several hundred miners and their wives looked on, the children pressed eagerly towards the stage to receive Christmas presents. At this point a man put his head in at the door of the hall and yelled "Fire!"

The cry was taken up by those in the hall. Every one started for the doors. The weaker were thrown to the floor and those behind tried to climb over those ahead of them.

The stairway and other avenues of escapes were blocked so effectively that those inside could not get out and those without could not get in to aid the panic-stricken crowd in the hall. It was some time before the panic subsided.

The alarm was spread outside the hall by a few persons who had been near the door and escaped unhurt. A crowd soon assembled and the work of clearing the hall was begun.

The principal exit was a narrow stairway at the back of the hall. When this had been cleared of the bodies that filled it to the top and a quick accounting had been made it was found that 74 corpses had been piled up beside the hall building. It is thought that a dozen others were carried away by friends.

The dead that were piled up beside the hall included 37 girls 19 boys, 13 women and 5 men. Excited men and women stood about the building, some dazed by the sudden change from holiday festivities to tragedy, others calling hysterically for missing children, and a few even threatening violence to the rescuers for keeping them back from the long row of bodies.

There was not much work for the many doctors who hurried to the scene as soon as the alarm was spread, for those who were not killed in the first rush were held upright and safe by the very force of the onrush towards the exit. Only three of the uninjured persons were taken to the hospitals and a few went home, assisted by friends.

STOPPING A DRAIN.

(Wilmington Star.)

It was announced in September that the August product of the Catawba Creamery was 20,000 pounds of butter. Probably that was the high water mark for a harvest month, but the probability is that July should generally be the record month. However, if the annual output should be only 100,000 pounds, we can conceive what an important industry the creamery is to the farmers who supply it and probably get 50 per cent of the money-brought to Hickory by the creamery. It really may handle a larger output for all we know, but if the industry annually keeps only \$25,000 in Catawba, its value to the farmers can be appreciated. However, not only the farmers, but the community is benefited, for it stops the money drain that here before went out of Catawba for Western and Northern butter.

Yes the lamb is more lovable than the hog, but the hog is generally much fatter than the lamb.

NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST

Interesting Reading Matter of Local and National Affairs in Condensed Form.

Bishop Collins Denny, of Richmond took a dose of poison by mistake in his home in that place last week, but prompt action with a stomach pump gave relief before the poison had taken effect and he suffered no inconvenience from the mistake.

Two policemen of Salisbury, used a good deal of force in quelling a disturbance in a candy kitchen in that place during the holidays and abused a young man right much. They were tried by the mayor for exceeding authority and fined \$25 each.

An old man under the influence of liquor, at Mt. Airy tried to put a young man visiting his daughter out of the house when the young man used a knife. The doctor found it necessary to use seventeen stitches to sew up the wounds on the old man's face and neck.

A cripple man who made his living by selling shoe strings and pencils has been missing from Greensboro where he was last seen for some days and the police think he has been robbed and perhaps killed. The effects of the missing man were found in a vacant lot some days ago but he has not been located.

Reports indicate that the crops of 1913 will exceed any thing of the kind in the history of the country. The estimated value of all kinds of farm crops for year is ten billion dollars. The quantity produced in some lines has fallen off but the high prices increased the value so as to bring the grand total to the high water mark.

The little three-year old daughter of Mr. Lee Carter of Iredell county was shot and instantly killed by her five year old brother last week. The children were left in the house at play while the parents went about their work. The boy found his father's gun and some shells and literally shot the top of his little sister's head off.

Two men were riding along the public road near Hickory last Friday in an automobile when two other men in a buggy deliberately turned their horses across the road—blocking the way. When the auto men came the others drew knives and cursed them. Later the drunken men in the buggy were arrested and fined \$25 and \$50 for their conduct.

The Roaring Gap Hotel and one cottage was burned last Saturday night and the fire is thought to have been the work of incendiaries, as tracks were seen in the snow near the buildings. The property was worth about \$10,000 and was about half covered by insurance. Mr. Alex Chatham of Elkin was the owner of the cottage burned and was principal owner of the hotel.

The board of aldermen of Asheville are sitting as a court of impeachment, investigating charged against police judge Adams of that city, who is charged of standing in with certain liquor interests of the town and not doing his duty as a judge. Some damaging facts have been brought out by the News-Gazette one of the papers of the city and much excitement is caused over the developments.