

Letter From Mrs. Bilkins.

Fuquay Springs, N. C., Oct. 2.

Deer Mister Editor:—This levees me az bright an' cheerful ez possible, 'thout Zeke. He wood fill my cup uv contentment tu the brim.

Fuquay iz still lively and ackcordin tu my promus, I'll tell yu erbout the pick-nick me an' Mrs. Sunshine Johnson shapperoaned. We shorely give all the courtin' cupples a good chanst; our hearts is still yung, yu no.

We hired a big two-mule-waggin fur the jolly crowd and a steer cart fur the eatables.

The yung feller whare got kicked by his gal cum erlong in a buggy erbout a mile behind a poutin' like ennything. He seen his gal a settin' by a nice looking feller in the waggin' a tossin' her hed like she wuz az happy az a lark. But I knowed better.

I seed thet Rolly crowd settin' eround the edge ov a mud-hole called a lake. All they needed wuz sum-boddy tu butt their heads together and I maid up my mind tu to sum-thin's on thet order before annuther sun set.

So when she busted out cryin' I took her in my arms and told her it wood awl cum rite, fer yu no, sez I, "the coarse uv trew luv never runs smoothe."

Wun uv the gals wuz a makin' a mirashun erbout puttin' a worm on a hook and the way she screemed wuz enuff tu skeer the minners we laid out tu ketch 2 miles erway.

She wuz jest a givin' wun uv them gostly men critters a chanst to skweeze her hand, fer I seen him when he done it.

Jest erbout thet time I hearn sum-thin' go off like Zeke's ole muskit. A purty gal, drest in her Sunday go tu meetin', and wun uv them gosts (I call 'em thet fer they go erbout in white garments and they haint angels), turned two dubble backed summersets off the long plank that wuz stretched acrost wun end uv the lake.

They maid a hole ez big ez a hawgsed and a spatter ez high ez our barn and uv awl the yells and screems yu ever hearn thet house party done it.

I had to laff at the way that cupple cum up out uv the water.

His hat wuz surreenly bobbin' acrost the lake, but hern wuz pinned on, and when they stood up in thet shaller, muddy water, little yaller streams run down on her pine blank-like wun uv them nu-fangled shower baths. But the culler ov them white garments beet me. I hope them fokes wuz Baptists, fer a Metherdist er a Episcopailyan wood a lost awl thare religyun, as well as thare cloze.

Jest then up road our poutin' feller, and wuz gallunt enuff tu lend 'em hiz buggy tu go hoam. Ov course he had tu git in our waggin, and he pouted wussin ever.

I didn't count on gettin' no fish after awl thet commoshun at the mud hole, so after we got our crowd awl fixed, waitin' with bated hooks and breth (is thet a joke)? I set back in the shaid and begun tu dreeme.

I see a bend in a crick, woods full uv wild flowers, on eether side, spots ov sunshine a dancin' on the water and me and Zeke (Mr. and Mrs. Bilkins, ef yu pleeze), a settin' on the bank jist a pullin' in the perch. I could even see the dinner basket and smell whut wuz in it.—Then—ez I dreemed—It wuz gittin lait and Mr. and Mrs. Bilkins wuz homeward a ploddin thare weery way. He with a long string uv fish in wun hand and holdin' 2 poles on his shoulder with tuther one.

Mrs. Bilkins wuz a luggin' the empty dinner basket and a big bunch uv wild flowers tu maik the house look woody.

She wuz a puffin' and a blowin' on account uv her size and it bein' near milkin' time and Sukey a-lowin fer her calf, when—Sich a yell brought me back ter the presunt.

Jest as I looked up, a big, hiland mockersun run rite square acrost the feet ov the gal what kicked her feller! The fine lookin' gent a settin' by her took tu his heels, and up run her feller tu the resku with a big limb and laid the pesky varmint low. He wuz a whopper, almost ez big ez my arm. The gal sorter turned sick and wobbled a little and her feller didn't do a thing but take her in hiz arms and she seamed tu fit rite thar. I konsidritly turned my back and called out tu the crowd, "Who's agoin' to help fix dinnur?"

In the rush thet follered that gal and her feller disuppeared and we didn't lay eyes on 'em till we blue the dinner horn. When they cum santerin' back her face wuz ez brite and smilin' ez a May mornin', and he wuz sweet ez peeches and cream.

Our day wuz without a cloud excep' Mrs. Sunshine Johnson's black shadder. He wanted mother tu du this and not du that. Mother du you see whut Bill is a doin'? Maik Tom stop thet. You'll ruin thare digesh-tyun. Don't starve 'em. I'll tell Mother, ef yu boys don't quit scrap-pin'.

Poor little Mother, and she don't way a hundred! Them kids is most ez big ez she iz now and ought to be lookin' out fer her.

I ast her on the way hoam why she didn't run thet Thunder cloud out o' the kuntry, and her face dimpled ez she sed, merrily, "Why Sunshine iz the biggest baby in the lot and the trubble iz I can't spank him. I do beleve that tender-harted little thing loves thet cross graned old bare! Whare's the fule killer?"

I wanted tu tell yu erbout our plesant and safe return but my letter is awlreddy tu long.

BETSY BILKINS.

Wake County Commissioners.

Wake County Commissioners met Monday and Tuesday. The following is a part of the proceedings:

A petition from citizens in Panther Branch township asking that Mr. M. C. Batts be allowed to straighten the public road running through his farm in said township without cost to the county was recommended by Supervisor J. J. Jordan and was granted.

On a report of Supervisor J. J. Jordan the petition of J. M. Roberts for a new road in Panther Branch township was refused.

A change in the Smithfield road, urged by Dr. Blalock and opposed by Mr. J. T. Leach and referred to Superintendent H. G. Holding and Supervisor Jordan.

W. F. Smith, the new superintendent of the county home, resigned as supervisor in Barton's Creek and J. H. Carlton was elected to succeed him. The vote stood: Ennis Brogden 1, C. H. Holloway and J. H. Carlton 3.

N. B. Johnson, of Panther Branch, was granted a free license to peddle vegetables and confections. S. W. Smith, of Panther Branch, was given a similar license.

Superintendent Holding made a report. The Avent Ferry road had been worked and improved. The Averyboro road from Holly Springs to Fuquay had been partly worked, and he recommended that Supervisor Burt hire labor. The Hutchinson road had not been orened because the people there would not bear the damages.

In regard to the working of the road from the Mills' Place to New Hope Church, which was the original Louisburg road leading by Rolesville, when the road was changed to run by Mr. A. E. S. Lindsay's, there is little travel on this road and it was allowed to go down. He had agreed with the parties living on said road that they were to spend two days out of the four which they were liable on said road. The Tip-pers cross roads, leading to Leesville, had not been worked for some

time, he had agreed that the people on that road should work two days of the four on same.

The new bridge in New Light township, near C. C. Lowry's had been put in and the abutments fixe l. At the request of Secretary Jos. E. Pogue, the road superintendent was directed to use the road force for four days to put the race track in good condition at the fair grounds.

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