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JOHNSTON LETTER.

Pythian Banquet, W. M. Society Elect Officers. Mrs. Albert Dozier Entertains New Century Club.

The Knights of Pythias have had several banquets, and all have been enjoyed, but the one given on Thursday evening eclipsed each successive one and was a great pleasure to all present. The occasion was at Turner hall, and it had been made very attractive by the committee of young women. The banquet table had covers for 175 and was adorned with blooming flowers and pyramids of tropical fruits, and the general outline of the table arrangement was traced with the glossy ivy leaves. After being seated at the table, oysters, with coffee, crackers and pickles were served in an abundance.

Dr. J. A. Dobey was toast-master, and the first to speak was Dr. W. S. Dorset, on "Fraternalism," and was followed by Prof. W. C. Curry, on "Women," and Mr. S. J. Watson, on "Education and what it means to the order." Rev. E. H. Beckham, on "Oysters" brought forth frequent laughs, and he began by saying that "even when he thought of his subject at the table, it disappeared." There were several extemporaneous toasts, which were enjoyed: Mr. Jack A. Lott, "cheek," Mr. Will Wright, "Enough," and Mr. Elzie LaGrone, "Love."

April 26th has been set as the date to unveil the monument to the Confederate dead. At the last D. of C. meeting. Messrs. Bomar and Dögen, of the firm from which the monument was gotten, were present to confer with the members, and on Thursday, February 15th will come and make a town canvass with the appointed committee, and at an early date will send out a representative to make a county canvass for the chapter, and it is hoped by this to complete the funds.

The district convention of the D. of C. will be held here on Thursday, March 28th, the session to be from 11 to 2 o'clock, with Miss Alice Earle, of Columbia, vice-president presiding. Miss Millie Retherford, of Athens, Ga., U. D. C. Historian, will be invited, and will be the guest of honor. A representative from every chapter in the division is urged to come. Luncheon will be served at the conclusion of the session.

Miss Mamie Lake, of Edgefield, was the guest of relatives and friends here last week. Her visit was a great pleasure to many as she is always so bright and entertaining.

The following officers were elected at the last meeting of the W. M. society of the Baptist church to serve during the ensuing year: Mrs. L. C. Latimer, president; Mrs. W. S. Dorset, vice-president; Mrs. J. A. Lott, recording secretary, Mrs. W. J. Hatcher, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. S. J. Watson, Treas. The society is arranging to have a jubilee meeting, probably about April, and the committee to arrange for such was Mesdames P. C. Stevens, J. H. White and W. J. Hatcher.

Mrs. Lillie Andrews is spending awhile in Augusta, taking a special course in music.

Miss Sallie Carwile is visiting friends in North, S. C.

Mrs. Albert Dozier was hostess for the new century club on last Friday afternoon from 4 to 6 o'clock, and besides the members, there were several guests to enjoy the afternoon. The next month's study will be on "Egypt, the pyramids and sphinx," and promises to be most interesting. It was decided to purchase an encyclopedia to use in the study of the courses. Mrs. Dozier made the social hour a happy one and all enjoyed the feast of good things she served. First was a salad course, attractively arranged, and this was followed by sweets, with a variety of cake.

Mr. G. P. Cobb has the sympathy of many warm friends, in the death of his father, which occurred last week at Pelzer. He went to attend his bedside, and was accompanied by his wife and daughter, Miss Sue Sloan.

Mesdames J. E. Hart and James Tompkins, spent Thursday here.

Mr. Wilmot Ouzts has gone to Tenille, Ga., to see a special friend.

Mrs. Wm. Toney spent Saturday in Augusta.

Miss Anna Bess Rushton and Mr.

Olin W. Eidson were married at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Tabitha Rushton on Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock, Rev. E. H. Beckham officiating. The affair was a very quiet one and no cards were issued, only the relatives of the contracting parties being present. Following the ceremony and congratulations, the guests were invited to partake of the tempting viands served. On Friday, Mr. and Mrs. Barr, the latter a sister of the bride, gave a dining for the party.

Flat Rock School.

Here we are in February. Three months of winter will soon be over, and then we shall walk into the cheerful days of spring. Then let us be up and doing our duty by improving our time. We ought to grasp every advantage in early life, and when we become older we can look back to our early life with credit and pleasure to ourselves. How important it is that we should try to elevate and refine our minds!

Securing an education is not a road of flowers and ease, as some may suppose it to be, but it is like everything else, it has its share of thorns. I speak from experience, which is a good teacher. Let us remember if we go to school and do not improve our time as we ought to do, then blame and shame will rest wholly on the boy or girl who is guilty of wasting their precious time. We should never let a spare moment slip by, for time unemployed is time unenjoyed. Remember that a mill never grinds with water that has passed, and if we do not improve our time while we are young, when the time has slid by, we will say, "Oh how I wish I had improved my time while the opportunities were staring me in the face." We all know just as the twig is bent, the tree will incline.

Mr. Mims, I have just finished my lessons. I then came to a pack of dear letters from my sweet teacher Miss Eileen. Those are dear pleasures to me. In one of them, she said "Tea strive each day to be better tomorrow than to-day, and in that way, you will become a perfect young man." Oh! I will never forget her sweet thoughts of me. I do love her with all my heart, and she loves me I know.

It was quite a shock to hear of Mr. Prescott's death. We sympathize with his family.

Mr. Mims, I do wish you could have been here at my home one night last week, and heard our country band.

Mr. Mims, I must thank you so much for the room you gave all the school children in printing their letters. It just proves to them that you are trying to help them step up in life. Boys and girls, don't be so dilatory in writing. Mr. Mims is so kind to us all, he looks for the roses and lets the thorns take care of themselves.

Well Mr. Mims, there is nothing new around our Flat Rock, but measles, measles, nothing but measles.

But what is the use of feeling blue, Nature's happy like and true. Help the world to be more cheerful, And 'twill do the same for you. Blue is all right in the sky, All right in a maiden's eye, But don't get it in your system It will kill you by and by.

Flat Rock School Boy.

She Saw the Ruins.

Representative Henry, of Texas, was praising a Washington heiress. "She is the right sort," he said, "She went abroad last year, and on her return a friend asked her:

"Did you see many picturesque old ruins over there?" "Yes," she said, with a faint smile, "and six of them proposed."—New York Tribune.

Mosaic.

The teacher asked: "When did Moses live?" After the silence had become painful she ordered: "Open your Old Testaments. What does it say there?"

A boy answered: "Moses, 4000." "Now," said the teacher, "why didn't you know when Moses lived?"

"Well," replied the boy, "I thought it was his telephone number."—Suburban Life.

CLARK'S HILL LETTER.

Wood Brings Good Price. Fertilizer Shipments Late. Mr. Whatley's New Residence.

This morning, one month ago, we were wrapped in a sheet of snow, and it seems as if these snows are to come every month. The ground remains so frozen that farmers have done but little work over here. Some still have oats to plant. No fertilizers have been shipped in, owing to the "slump off" in cotton and the farmers are a bit shy of the "grant dirt."

The wood business is the most thriving one at present. Well, people certainly have to keep warm. Meriwether is shipping several cars weekly. Wood is a good price, \$2.75 a cord delivered at shipping point.

Owing to the illness of Mr. Bradley which was caused by a horse felon, school was suspended for several days last week.

Mr. J. G. Meriwether of Allendale, has recently sold his plantation to the Georgia-Carolina Power Company. This corporation is buying quite a lot of land on both Georgia and Carolina side.

The peach men are taking a good deal of interest in their orchards pruning and spraying the trees. Mr. H. E. Bunch has just finished setting out quite an orchard of Georgia Belles.

Mr. G. O. Whatley is planning to build his residence.

Mrs. H. A. Adams with her daughter Katherine, and youngest child Joe Luke, spent last week in Plum Branch with her nephew Mr. Adams.

Mrs. Woodson Entertains.

Mrs. A. A. Woodson entertained a number of friends at a delightful dining at her home on Saturday in honor of Mrs. C. H. Shulken, of Augusta. The guests present were Mrs. A. E. Padgett, Mrs. M. D. Jeffries, Mrs. W. P. Calhoun, Mrs. J. L. Mims, Miss Mamie Gwaltney, Mrs. R. G. Shannonhouse, Mrs. B. B. Jones, Mrs. J. W. Peak. The ladies were entertained by a sewing contest, the most neatly done towel receiving a prize. Mrs. Jeffries was the successful winner of the first prize, and Mrs. B. B. Jones of the booby prize, the first being a handsome linen towel, the other a hemmed dish towel.

Tribute to Mr. J. T. Parkman

At 4 o'clock a. m. February 6th, the angel of death entered the home of our neighbor and friend J. Trapp Parkman and he slept the last long sleep from which there is no awaking until the resurrection morn. He died after a brief and painful illness of Bright's disease, surrounded by a large loving family and numerous friends who did everything in their power to minister to his needs, vainly endeavoring to stay the hand of the Grim Reaper; but to no avail.

In the sad and untimely taking of Trapp Parkman in the prime of life his family has sustained an irreparable loss of a devoted husband and father, and our community has lost a useful good citizen whose place it will indeed be hard to fill.

Honest, industrious, and conscientious in the discharge of every duty, he bore well his part in life, and died as he had lived, a true man, good neighbor, and faithful friend, having the respect and good will of all whose good fortune it was to know him well, as was the privilege of the writer.

To the sorrowing grief stricken family and relatives left behind to mourn his loss the writer wishes to tender his unfeigned and deepest sympathy in this dark hour of their crushing bereavement; and while realizing that human sympathy is powerless and unavailing to restore the touch of a vanished hand or the sound of a voice that is still, however let us cherish the assurance and sweet solace that an all wise Providence "loveth those whom he chasteneth," and that some day beyond this vale of tears there will be a joyful re-union in a brighter land than this, not made by hands eternal in the heavens.

A friend.

PARKSVILLE NEWS.

Mary Riddlehoover Entertains Little Friends. Work of Mr. Snuggs Bearing Fruit.

Everybody has contempt for the boot-lick, the man without backbone, who sets his sails to catch every breeze, in order, not to be right, but to be with the crowd. In view of these facts, I think a few extracts from "Foreword" in Clinical Medicine appropriate: Get right first, using your own conscience as a guide, your own mind to decide, your own will to do, be nobody's man.

Then stick—be as firm as a rock. But change the minute you can improve. When you find yourself in error, back up and try again. Let the waves of intolerance, of falsehood, of abuse, of inuendo, of rhetorical precedent, of special interests and private favor, beat upon you and about you, and leave you still a rock.

Cultivate backbone—courage—fidelity.

Be firm, but stubborn, stay right; but able to see your own faults, and willing, yes glad to correct them. We love the lovers of truth; respect those who respect the opinions of others; and fortune favors the brave. Rush ahead.

The remarkable revolution in China, which is apparently transforming that slumbering giant of the nations into a nation, was undoubtedly inspired by our own "experiment" in self-government. This fact, however, is significant and reason for hope: Behind it is a man—this a great, insistent, contained, and constantly active power, Sun Yat Sen, the recent president of the province.

He is a Christian physician, a man more than any other individual, as due the great upheaval, which threatens to drive the manchu from the throne. A brief study of the life of Dr. Sun Yat Sen helps us to understand the character of the revolution. He was born 55 years ago in Huang-Shan, and is the son of a farmer, who had been converted to christianity. In his boyhood he went with his mother to Honolulu, where an elder brother was in business. There he attended mission schools, and finally studied in an American college. Thus he became acquainted with the English language, which he is said to speak fluently, and this explains why he is conversant with the ideals and spirit of American institutions.

Sun Yat Sen then returned to his native land where he took up the study of medicine. After five strenuous years, he was graduated from Hong-Kong college of medicine for Chinese and his diploma, (the first of the school) was handed him by Dr. Keer, the American missionary, who was at the head of this institution.

As current literature says, "the foundations of his campaigns have long been solidly laid upon four corner stones, unselfishness, patriotism, courage, capacity. He is a sincere and humble minded Christian, who translates into action the teachings of the sermon on the mount, and his religion is not of the theologic, but rather the practical type. My brothers," he said to a meeting of students, "applied christianity is our true need."—Editorial in Clinical Medicine.

I send you these extracts to show how the seed sown by our missionaries is beginning to germinate; and yet some of our people oppose foreign missions. But in the light of these facts, I rise to remark in the language of another, that "to oppose foreign missions in this day and time, is a reflection upon ones intelligence."

And this reminds us, that the Rev. Mr. Snuggs from south China delivered a very interesting lecture in the Baptist church last Wednesday night on the work in south China. One prominent brother said he felt much nearer China than ever before, and he expected to return with brother Snuggs,—of course send his substitute. Any brother can go as substitute, by sending \$100. In the war, men who do not feel like undergoing the hardships of the service, can go by substitute, and this is the way this brother can go, because he can employ a native preacher in his stead for \$100.

The snow, the beautiful snow! Yesterday was the third Sunday in 1912, that the earth was covered with a beautiful mantle of white, and the year but little over 1-12 gone. Well, there is compensation in everything, and our scientific agriculturists tell us, that each snow is more or less equivalent to a coat of manure. If this be true our farmers should feel encouraged, feeling that they pitch the crop of 1912 under favorable auspices, the ground being full of the proper bacteria. Let's plant plenty of corn, peas and sorghum and a little cotton for pastime.

I hear that the matrimonial bureau at this place has been revived. Applicants from Newberry, Augusta and other far away points are on file. Widows a specialty. The truth is, the widows seem to hold the lucky cards. It is suggested that they are in possession of the proverbial rabbit's foot, and as soon as one gets off, she bequeaths said foot to the next widow in line of promotion. Of course all this sounds like a joke, but in my last I foretold orange blossoms, and this shoemaker "sticks to his last."

Mrs. R. S. Riddlehoover gave the little school girls of the age of her little daughter Mary, a gay time and a big dinner Saturday. The following little misses attended: Claudia Barrett, Rosada Talbert, Marie Blackwell, Myrtle Garrett and Martha Bell. They had a huge time and praise Miss Hattie.

Mr. Joe Brunson, wife and little Catherine have moved back to Parksville as indicated last week. Mr. Brunson has accepted a position as assistant cashier of the Parksville bank.

Miss Carrie Cotton leaves in a few days for Augusta to attend Osborne business college. Miss Cotton is a bright girl and we predict for her a useful session. She will be in Parksville during her school in Mr. B. Y. P. U. M. She will return every day, but hope she will return after completing her course.

More Anon.

Tribute to Mrs. C. P. Holley.

Mrs. C. P. Holley died at her home in Plum Branch on Thursday a. m. February 8th at 2:30 o'clock. She was 72 years of age and had been paralyzed the last three years of her life. From early life she was a noble consecrated member of the Baptist church.

Those who knew her best saw in her most, her exalted noble character. It was her delight to minister to the suffering as long as she could. Taking her whole life into consideration, it is evident that one of the most useful of women has exchanged the grief and toil of earth for the joy and rest of heaven. Oh! how she will be missed, especially by her loved ones, who always considered her counsel and help of such great value.

The memory and influence of her long, devoted and consecrated life will never be forgotten by her children and grand children to whom she was so faithful.

It is a comforting thought to think that she is enjoying unending bliss in the Father's house above, waiting for other loved ones to follow on.

Her grand-daughter Mrs. C. L. Harper.

A Hero in a Lighthouse.

For years J S Donahue, So. Haven, Mich., a civil war captain, as a lighthouse keeper, averted awful wrecks, but a queer fact is, he might have been a wreck himself, if Electric Bitters had not prevented. "They cured me of kidney trouble and chills," he writes, after I had taken other so called cures for years, without benefit and they also improved my sight. Now, at seventy, I am feeling fine. For dyspepsia, indigestion, all stomach, liver and kidney troubles, they're without equal. Try them. Only 50c at Penn & Holstein, W E Lynch & Co.

Notice to Teachers.

Send all essays contesting for prizes offered by the Womans Christian Temperance Union by February 20th to Mrs. J. L. Mims, Edgefield, S. C. The best on each subject will be read at the Tri-County Convention at Johnston, March 4th, and prizes awarded them.

TEST SEED CORN.

The Progressive Farmer Should Know More About the Kind of Seed Corn He is Going to Plant.

Seed corn which has been stored through the winter under ordinary conditions in South Carolina, is often thought to need no testing before planting. But the high price of land and the additional expense of replanting the field demand that the progressive farmer know more about the quality of seed that he is to plant.

The proper time to make the germinating test is about three weeks before planting, so that if any bad ears are found in the lot and discarded, the ears which are to take their place may also be tested before the seeds are placed in the soil.

A convenient sized testing box for the average farmer is one that is 24 inches by 24 inches, and about 4 to 6 inches deep. This box can be made from six inch plank, or a soap or starch box sawed down to the desired depth can be used. This box should have a layer of at least two inches of wet sawdust packed tightly over the bottom. It will be found convenient to wet the sawdust in an old sack or to use an equal amount of water.

Having completed a piece of white cloth, which should be a little larger than the box, and be marked off one hundred squares 2 1/2 inches. Number each of these consecutively from 1 to 100, then dip this cloth into a bucket of water and stretch it evenly over the sawdust.

When the tester is complete, take the ears of corn to be tested and number each ear. Then take six kernels from each ear, two from opposite sides of the butt, two from opposite sides of the middle, and two from opposite sides of the tip. See that no two kernels are taken from the same row, and if the butt and tip kernels are taken one inch from the end of the ear, this will be an average sample. Having taken the kernels from the ear, place them in the square which is numbered to correspond to the number of the ear. Allow no two of them to touch, place them with the heart side up, and all of the tips pointing in the same direction. When grains from all the ears have been placed in the squares which correspond to the number of the ear from which they were taken, place another piece of wet cloth on top of them and cover this with another piece of wet cloth on top of them and cover this with 2 to 3 inches of wet sawdust. Then place the box in some place where it will remain warm. At the end of four days dampen the sawdust again by sprinkling some warm water over it. At the end of a week the tester should be examined by carefully removing the sawdust and top cloth. The numbers of all squares which do not show six big healthy sprouts should be ascertained, the ears which have the corresponding numbers should not be planted.

J. M. Napier, Assistant Professor of Agronomy, Feb. 10, 1912.

Frances Willard Medal Contest.

Organ Solo—Mrs. Mamie N. Tillman.
Devotional Service—Mr. A. S. Tompkins.
Vocal Solo—"We're Coming, Dear Leader," Miss Eliza Mims.
The Boys Petition—Florence Mims.
Fourth of July at Forest Home—Katherine Mims.
A Southern Incident—Hortensia Woodson.
Moderation Bridge—Florence Peak.
Total Abstinence Bridge—Georgia May Wates.
Vocal Trio, "Oh Who Will be There?"—Mrs. R. G. Shannonhouse, Mrs. J. R. Tompkins, Miss Eula Tisdale.
Address—"Frances Willard." Awarding of Medal—Collection. Music.