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JOHNSTON LETTER.

Miss Waters Entertained New Century Club--Death of Henry Carson--Many Social Functions.

The Misses Waters gave a spend-the-day party on Monday for their guest, Miss Lula Scruggs, of Chattanooga, Tenn. The hours were bright and happy ones and passed all too quickly for the merry party which was composed of Misses Alma and Bertha Woodward, Clara Sawyer, Zena Payne and Mesdames Eleanor A. Schell and A. V. Cox.

Miss Maud Sawyer will go to Columbia soon having accepted a position in the engraving department.

Miss Bertha Stahn, of Chester, is expected soon to visit Mrs. F. M. Boyd.

Mr. O. S. Wertz has leased his hotel to a party from Augusta, and at an early date will be ready for patronage.

Mrs. James White gave a dinner party on new year for her visitors Misses Annie Lou and Ruth Cates, and Mr. and Mrs. Hedgpeth, of Augusta. Besides these there were about 16 other guests. The repast was most attractively served in courses and the favors were unique and prettily. The latter hours were passed with social chat, laughter and music.

Miss Elise Cronch was hostess on new year for a party of her young friends, and an elegant 6 course dinner was served. The arrangement in the dining room was beautiful and a prettier sight, than this circle of happy young faces, would be hard to find. Merriment was had over new year resolutions and in the library sweet music filled the air.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Ready also gave an elaborate new year dining and besides a number of their immediate friends and relatives, there were several out of town guests.

Mrs. P. B. Waters, Jr., honored Miss Lula Scruggs, of Chattanooga, with a 6 o'clock dinner on Thursday evening, and the occasion was one of the pleasantest social affairs of the new year. There were 14 seated at the festive board, and the centerpiece was a bowl of fragrant flowers. Seated with the hostess and honoree were Mesdames James White, M. T. Turner, F. M. Boyd, O. D. Black, W. J. Hatcher, J. L. Walker, F. L. Parker, B. T. Cogburn and Alice Cox and Misses Malbina and Sara Waters and Zena Payne. A course dinner was served. After returning to the parlor the hours were spent with a flow of animated conversation, intermingled with vocal and piano solos.

Misses Effie and Georgia May Wates, of Edgefield, and Nina Cunningham, of Augusta, were here on Tuesday returning from a visit to Miss Ruth Forrest, of Rushtons.

Prof. and Mrs. John Waters, of Vidalia, Ga., spent last week here with relatives. Mrs. Waters is pleasantly remembered as Miss Helen Wright.

Mesdames M. A. Brannon, of Spartanburg, Chas. Kneec, of Batesburg, and S. A. Rambo, of Augusta, spent last week here at the home of their father, J. R. Hart.

Mrs. Lallah Graydon, of Greenwood, visited relatives here during the past year.

Mrs. E. A. Schnell of Greenwich, Conn., who has been visiting her mother, Mrs. Eleanor Ivy, has joined her husband at Charleston, where they proceeded to Florida in their yacht. Their daughter, Miss Iva Turner who was also here, has returned to Randolph-Macon college, Va.

The new year's gift from the Baptist Sunday school, to the old preacher's fund, which was a result of their class collections, was \$50. In a note from C. C. Brown, he stated that Sumter made the largest donation, with Johnston second.

Miss Nellie Waters was hostess for the New Century Club on Tuesday afternoon and although it was gloomy without, warmth and brightness prevailed within and good cheer abounded. An hour was pleasantly spent with "The Merry Wives of Windsor," as entertainment, and papers bearing on different points of the play were read by Mesdames Wm. F. Scott, F. M. Boyd, J. H. White, James Strother, and Misses Clara Sawyer, Ruby

Strother, Gladys Sawyer and Zena Payne. Miss Angelle Andrews charmingly rendered two piano solos, "The merry wives of Windsor," and "The minuet." The guests were invited into the dining room where a salad course was served, this followed by sweets.

Mrs. Edwin Mobley left on Tuesday of this week for Florida, where she will spend the remaining winter months with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Mobley. She was accompanied by Mrs. J. L. Walker who will visit her aunt, Mrs. Alice Gary and other relatives.

Little Henry White Carson the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Carson, died at their home near town, on Friday night, having been sick for about a week. He was a bright and attractive child and was the joy of his fond parents' hearts, and will be sadly missed in the home. The body was laid to rest on Saturday morning at the Mt. of Olives cemetery, the services being conducted by Rev. E. H. Beckham.

Prof. and Mrs. Eric Hardy left on Saturday for Virginia, the former having accepted a position as teacher.

The record of the Baptist Sunday school, on the first Sunday in the year is worthy of mention—204 present with a collection \$8.95.

Cottonseed Meal for Mare With Foal.

A Virginia reader asks: "Is the feeding of cottonseed meal to a mare in foal injurious, and will it harm a foal nursing a mare fed this feed? Is it a safe feed for a cow with calf, and for a calf drinking the milk of a cow fed on it?"

We believe cottonseed meal a good and safe feed for both mares in foal and cows in calf. We know that many would answer the question otherwise, but we believe they do so on prejudice rather than on definite facts or knowledge. We also believe cottonseed meal a good feed for mares and cows suckling their young.

There is no evidence, worthy of consideration, that cottonseed meal fed reasonably or intelligently ever injured such animals, and there is abundance of evidence to show that when properly used, it is a most excellent feed for such animals.

For feeding mares we would not use more than one pound of cottonseed meal to five pounds of corn, or to five pounds of corn and oats. We know of no better ration for a brood mare or one suckling a colt than equal parts of legume and grass hays and ten pounds of corn and two pounds of cottonseed meal a day, per 1,000 pounds of the animal's weight. Less grain may be fed for two weeks before and after foaling, but the corn and cottonseed meal may be fed in the same proportions. Of course, if legume hays and oats are used, there will be no need of cottonseed meal, but cottonseed meal furnishes protein much cheaper than oats.

For feeding cows in calf, or those nursing or furnishing milk for calves, the same statements apply, except that a larger proportion of cottonseed meal may be used, especially if the cows have silage or pasture or other green feed. For a month before and after calving we would not use more than three pounds of cottonseed meal a day, but at other times, especially if green feed or silage is used, the quantity may be increased to four or five pounds a day, according to the quantity of milk the cow is giving. If, however, only cottonseed meal and hulls are used, they are not suitable ration for cows in calf or as a constant ration for any other cow. When a ration contains sufficient variety and no more cottonseed meal is used than is necessary to balance the ration, it is a most excellent feed for horses and cattle, but when fed in excess of the quantities indicated its high nutritive value makes digestive and other disturbances likely to result. Such results, however, are not the fault of the feed, but of the feeder.

"Do you think," inquired Rev. Mr. Snodgrass, that my revival services are having any practical effect?"

"Yes, some," acknowledged Deacon Southpaw, "the last sugar I bought of grocer Smith was only two ounces short."—January Lippincott's.

Good and Bad Crop Rotations.

A reader wants to know what is the real meaning of the phrase or term, "crop rotation." He asks if "allowing the land to grow up in weeds and grass one year and cultivating it the next is not crop rotation?"

Yes, this is one kind of crop rotation. Another kind is to cultivate the land in cotton for 25 or 50 years until it becomes too poor to make a profitable crop and then turn it out and allow it to grow up in pines or any natural growth which may come on it. These are crop rotations, all right, but they are not the best kind of rotation.

To allow weeds and grass to grow on the land for one or more years, or as it is generally called to let it "lay out" or "rest," is a rotation which may improve the fertility of the soil, but it is too slow and wasteful a rotation. The land may be made to grow a crop that will pay a profit and at the same time improve the land more rapidly.

Cotton followed by rye during the winter is a one-year, but a two-crop rotation; and cotton followed with crimson clover or rye and that followed by corn in which cowpeas are sowed at the last working, is a four crop, but a two-year rotation. But the word rotation carries with it the idea of repeating or following the series of crops round and round. This is the central or important idea which the Southern farmer has missed. His attempts at soil improvement by crop rotation have been spasmodic, irregular and short-lived.

To put a crop of cowpeas or some other legume in the rotation once in every three or four years is about like feeding a horse or a cow once a week. It may save feed, but it is hard on the animal. It may appear that we are getting more from the land when we feed the soil once about once in two or three years and then give it only a half ration by leaving only the stubble and roots of some legume; but it is hard on the soil and the actual results are written plainly and disgracefully in our crop yields, from 175 to 200 pounds of lint cotton, 15 to 18 bushels of corn and 18 to 20 bushels of oats per acre.—Progressive Farmer.

Home, Sweet Home.

It is one of the ironies of fate, says an exchange, that the poet from whose pen has come the immortal lyric of the hearthstone was himself a roving outcast—a homeless wanderer. The world remembers the pathetic story of John Howard Payne. Broken in health and reduced in fortune, the poor American exile found himself in the throbbing heart of the great city of London. Between his publishers—who allowed him little—and his creditors—who came to see him often—the penniless poet was in sore traits. The Atlantic ocean separated him from kith and kin. He felt the acutest sense of isolation—the bitterest pangs of loneliness. Perhaps no solitude is more oppressive than the solitude of great cities—the solitude which broods in the repellent looks of the unsympathetic multitudes. It is, as Lucian Knight has said, the heart's Sahara. Bereft of all other consolation, Payne seized the harp; and lightly he touched the strings. But not in vain. For the fire of inspiration was in the poet's soul; and on the banks of the River Thames, from the aching heart of an humble exile, leaped the hearthstone melody of "Home, Sweet Home."

Padgett-Walker.

Wednesday last was indeed a happy New Year at the home of our friend, Mr. E. M. Padgett, who resides on the old Plank Road below Trenton. Wedding bells rang more loudly and more merrily than usual, the occasion being the marriage of his two daughters. Miss Corinne Padgett was married to Mr. G. G. Walker and Miss Pearl Padgett became the bride of Mr. E. E. Walker, the Rev. P. B. Lanham officiating. All double weddings are rare and are regarded as peculiarly happy occasions, but this was particularly unique in that twin-brothers married sisters. The home was tastefully decorated for this happy event, and a bountiful wedding feast was served. The Advertiser extends hearty congratulations to these happy young people.

Board of Trustees Call For Meeting in Court House.

Mr. Editor: On Tuesday the 24th day of December last, in compliance with our request, quite a representative body of the citizens of our town assembled in our Court House to consider and determine what should be done for the promotion of the educational facilities of our community. The existing status was fully explained, and was discussed in amicable spirit; and resolutions were adopted by a rising vote, with unusual unanimity, which provide among other things, that our people will take prompt and adequate measures to repair and improve the school buildings; and that the Senator and Representatives from our county to the General Assembly be requested to authorize the levy of taxes on the property within the corporate limits of the town for the accomplishment of the purposes which are declared by the resolutions.

Everybody present must have been gratified at the spirit of harmony and unity of purpose that characterized the meeting; and the hope was cherished that we would all proceed with one accord to advance the educational facilities of our town, and thus promote, not only the welfare of our community, but the welfare of our county as well.

We hear however, that a petition is being circulated among our people, addressed to the Senator and members of the House of Representatives from our county, the effect of which may tend to defeat the purposes of the resolutions which were adopted at the meeting above referred to.

Surely it cannot be debatable, that all of our people, without the exception of one, are interested in the welfare of our schools; and it must be true that if differences of opinion exist as to the best methods to be pursued, they can be reconciled and harmonized upon a calm and dispassionate consideration of all the conditions as they exist. Surely our delegation to the General Assembly should not be embarrassed by the consideration of conflicting petitions in relation to a matter of such vital importance to our people, especially when these conflicting petitions emanate from their mutual friends.

We know our Representatives to the General Assembly, and we know that it will be a matter of pleasure to them all to comply with the wishes of their constituents; but they should not be expected or requested to reconcile differences of opinion in relation to a matter in which everybody has the same interest.

Therefore we hope that we will be pardoned for asking our fellow-citizens to meet again, in order that we may again consider the matter of our schools and how best to promote them, with the hope that we may reconcile any and all differences that may exist among us, to the end that we may present to our delegation a plan of procedure upon which our people with one accord can unite.

We therefore respectfully ask our fellow-citizens to assemble in the Court House at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, of Friday of this week, to take all these matters into consideration, and determine what shall be done with an eye single to the welfare, not only of our people now living, but as well to the welfare of people hereafter to be born.

J. C. Sheppard,
W. W. Adams,
A. S. Tompkins,
J. L. M. Ms,
J. Wm. Thurmond,
Board of Trustees.

Parcel Post Freight.

Since the parcel post law became effective the R. F. D. carriers will have to abandon their motorcycles, substituting a commodious dray therefor. The Advertiser has been informed that one of Edgefield's carriers has engaged Mr. Strom's traction engine and another has spoken for Mr. Will Reel's six-ox team to carry his daily load, while the third one is still tearing his hair, being thus far unable to make satisfactory arrangements for delivering his portion of "Uncle Sam's" freight.

Have you tried Noah's Liniment? It cures ills of man and beast. Timmons & Morgan.

Death of Mr. John F. Atkins.

Sunday afternoon a large number of relatives and friends gathered at Horn's Creek church to pay their last tribute to Mr. John F. Atkins who died at his home near Roper's Saturday night in his 60th year. The funeral was conducted by Dr. M. D. Jeffries.

Until about a year ago, Mr. Atkins was strong and robust, an ideal specimen of physical manhood. Silently and stealthily a dread disease began to undermine his constitution, sapping his strength and vitality. However, not until a few months ago did his friends and loved ones become alarmed over his condition. Notwithstanding his great strength and endurance, Mr. Atkins finally had to succumb. For some time prior to the end he was confined to his bed and suffered intensely, but he bore it all patiently. The acuteness of his suffering would have been unbearable but for the affectionate ministrations of friends and loved ones. The unceasing and unselfish devotion of his wife during his long illness was exceedingly beautiful. While everything that science and human love and devotion could do to relieve and stay the disease was done, yet practically from the time Mr. Atkins was taken it was a steady decline to the end.

His death removes one of Roper's most valuable citizens. A devoted husband, loyal friend, thoughtful neighbor and sterling citizen has been called hence. The estimation in which he was held generally by his fellow-citizens was shown last year when from a number of good men Mr. Atkins was recommended to the governor for appointment to the position of rural officer for Edgefield county.

Mr. Atkins is survived by his wife, who before her marriage was Miss Emma Miller, two half sisters, Mrs. M. D. Lyon and Mrs. G. M. G. Harling.

Should Sandy Land be Plowed This Winter?

There are two questions involved, which when answered will give the answer to the main question asked. First, will the land be injured or improved by the winter plowing, and second, can the plowing be done in the winter at less expense or more economically than next spring when the crops are to be planted?

Ordinarily, we suppose, it would be answered that sandy land is not benefited by winter plowing, but if there is a large amount of vegetable matter on the land, like grass and cornstalks, or if it is desired to plow the land a little deeper than usual, it may be wise to plow it during the winter, or at least, a month or more before planting the crop. Of course, it would have been better to have plowed this land last fall and sowed a cover crop, but that is not the question, and we do not wish to dodge the question now up for solution, behind any such advice.

If the land does not wash and has a fair amount of vegetable matter on it, we believe it will produce a better crop next summer if plowed during the winter. If the land is to be plowed deeper than usual at any time before the next crop, we feel quite sure that under the conditions named it will pay to plow this winter.

But assuming that this is doubtful, or even that the land would produce a better crop if not plowed until spring, then there is still to be considered the advantage of doing the plowing before the rush of work, which always occurs at seed-time. If there is no other work to be done during the winter the plowing can be done at much less cost, and if the team is sufficient for the rush of spring work, the crop can be put in earlier and better if some winter plowing is done. In view of all these facts, we repeat, if the land does not wash and there is any considerable amount of vegetation on the land we believe it will be profitable to plow it this winter or at least a month or two before planting the crop.—Progressive Farmer.

The old order of things has been restored—from fruit cake and turkey and cranberry sauce back to cornbread and bacon.

PLUM BRANCH KNIGHTS.

During The Holidays The Knights of Pythias Were Entertained by Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Adams.

"Here's to the hinges of friendship; may they never grow rusty." This was the motto of a delightful seven o'clock dinner given by Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Adams of Plum Branch, December 27, in honor of the local members of the order of Knights of Pythias. Those present were: Dr. J. J. Adams, Messrs. J. L. Bracknell, T. E. Cochran, B. H. Covington, C. L. Harper, J. H. Lyon, and Thomas McAlister. Messrs. J. J. Collier and J. B. Blackwell being out of town were of course absent.

The dining room was beautifully and tastefully decorated with evergreen and red suitable to the season and the occasion. Over the table was a large decorated arch bearing a candle for each member of the order; the absent ones being remembered by their candles not being lighted. But more interesting and important to us at the time was not decoration and sentiment, as essential as they are in every day life, but the bountiful supply of the most appetizing viands that any one could desire. All had been prepared and was served in the most charming manner by Mrs. Adams in person. We do not blame Daymon of old for lingering long and lovingly with the idol of his heart and his home if she were as winsome and charming with her domestic duties as Mrs. Adams. First, we were served with the most delicious tomato bouillabouise. Then came rice and salad and dressing and turkey in abundance.

In this course came ham two years old, something that is not seen every day even on the most up-to-date farms. It was a rare dish for some of us, and we can testify now that ham like wine improves with age. For desert we had ambrosia that well merited the name "Food for the gods." The oranges used were grown by a relative of Mrs. Adams in Florida and sent to her as a Christmas present. Time and space will not allow us to tell of the variety and quality of the cakes. One had to think twice in deciding which to take, for he could not take and eat even a little of all. After coffee was served the party adjourned to the parlor where a jolly good time was enjoyed by all.

One of the mysteries of the evening was the conspicuous absence of Mr. J. J. Collier. It was inexplicable to us, neither do we believe that he can explain it. When our school closed Friday afternoon for the holidays it seemed to cast a shadow over Mr. Collier, and after the ten-thirty train Saturday morning had started on its way to Augusta it seemed that he fell into a profound dream; it seemed that there was a complete separation between soul and body; his work in the store was most unsatisfactory. His employer did in some way manage to hold him to his job until Christmas day when he "took the wings of the morning and flew to the uttermost parts of the earth," seeking we do not exactly know what. It was very evident that he failed to find what he was seeking in Georgia, so on Friday afternoon he returned to Plum Branch only to remain with us until the six o'clock train toward Greenwood. It took him only a few moments to learn that what he was seeking was not in Greenwood, and in less than three hours from the time he left Plum Branch he was with us again (in body.) The next day, being Saturday, wearily dragged itself away from him, and that night he boarded the nine o'clock train for Augusta and Aiken (he said.) All of Plum Branch is glad to report that school has begun again, all the teachers being in their places, and Mr. Collier seems as happy as a bird released from its cage.

Mr. Blackwell was more fortunate in being able to visit his lady love, and this case Cupid too was at work, but the strange effects were with the more gentle heart, who as Mr. Blackwell was preparing to leave, was struck with an awful malady which the baffled and bewildered physicians pronounced pneumonia.

A Knight.