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JOHNSTON LETTER.

Bible Study Class Organized-- Meeting of the Daughters of Confederacy--Receptions Galore.

The first historical meeting of the D. of C. for the fall months was held on Thursday afternoon, with Mrs. B. T. Boatwright at her pretty home, "Cedar Grove," near town. The historian, Mrs. O. D. Black arranged a very interesting program, the subject being "Rear Admiral Raphael Semmes, naval officer." The meeting opened with a Confederate song and several papers and sketches were given: Mrs. G. P. Cobb, "The navy and war vessels;" Mrs. J. P. Bean, "Life of Semmes;" Miss Zena Payne, "The sea adventures of Semmes;" Mrs. D. W. Lott, "The Alabama, commanded by Semmes;" John Howard Black, a member of the children's chapter sang "Old black Joe" with guitar accompaniment, and Burrell Boatwright, Jr., gave "Little boy blue." Following the program, the hostess invited all into the dining room where a salad course was served. A large bowl of autumn flowers occupied the center of the table and throughout the parlor and hallway their brilliant flowers added beauty to the already attractive rooms.

Miss Mallie Waters is at home from a visit to Augusta.

Mr. and Mrs. P. N. Lott visited in Edgefield last week.

Mrs. W. L. Coleman has returned from the Knowlton hospital, Columbia, where she went for treatment, having suffered greatly during the summer with rheumatism.

Mrs. H. W. Crouch and Miss Elise Crouch spent a few days of last week with friends at Trenton.

Mr. Sam Carter, of Columbia, visited at the home of Maj. F. M. Warren recently.

Rev. and Mrs. M. L. Lawson, of Laurens, have been spending awhile with friends and relatives. Mr. Lawson is a former pastor, having served the Baptist church from 1907-1910, and he and his wife found a warm welcome. On Sunday morning, through invitation of Dr. King, Mr. Lawson filled the pulpit.

On Friday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Jack A. Lott gave a most enjoyable dinner party, the guests of honor being Rev. and Mrs. Lawson, and Rev. and Mrs. L. A. Cooper, who were visiting in the home and Dr. and Mrs. A. T. King, and Mrs. Estelle Gough. There were several other friends present to enjoy the cordial hospitality and good cheer of the host and hostess who are charming entertainers.

On Saturday Mrs. F. M. Boyd gave a beautiful afternoon party for her guest, Mrs. Coogler, of Chester, at which about 40 friends were present to enjoy the pleasures. The rooms were decorated with blooming flowers, gorgeous red dahlias being used in the parlor and pink and white ones, with ferns, elsewhere. Upon the arrival, punch was served on the piazza by Misses Mallie Waters and Zena Payne and Miss Lylie LaGrone escorted them into the hall, where the receiving line stood with Mrs. Boyd and Mrs. Coogler and the other honorees, Mesdames M. L. Lawson, A. T. King and Estelle Gough. The guests were introduced to these by Mesdames J. A. Lott and J. A. Doby. After awhile of pleasant converse, intermingled with bright and inspiring music by Miss Willis, refreshments were served consisting of frozen cream, pound and fruit cake and mints.

Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Stevens gave a delightful dining on Saturday at their home near town, and the day was happily spent.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Walker entertained about a dozen friends at tea Saturday evening.

Mr. Elkins, of Parksville spent a few days here at the home of Dr. J. A. Doby the first of the week.

Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Doby entertained with a very pleasant dining during the past week and present were several of their friends and relatives.

Mesdames F. A. Tompkins and F. S. Jefferson are spending this week at Meeting Street with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Turner and Misses Frances and Bessie Ford

Turner made a car trip to Augusta Wednesday.

Mr. Theodore Marsh who had the misfortune to break his arm while cranking his car, is now able to discard his sling and use the disabled member.

Mrs. Milton Parker of Edgefield visited Mrs. William F. Scott last week.

Miss Sara Norris spent Sunday at Aiken at the home of her uncle, Mr. Milton Myer.

Mrs. Alice Cox has been visiting relatives at Saluda.

Mrs. Bartow Walsh, of Sumter, is spending awhile in the home of her father, Mr. W. L. Coleman.

Capt. and Mrs. T. R. Denny gave a dining one day of the past week for a few of their friends, the occasion being in honor of Rev. and Mrs. M. L. Lawson. The hours were most pleasantly spent.

Rev. E. C. Bailey, pastor of the Presbyterian church, has organized a Bible study class, the meetings to be on 2nd Sunday afternoon. This will be non-denominational, and all interested, are invited to join. The first lecture was given on the past Sunday.

On Sunday evening, Rev. Bailey, through invitation of Dr. King, filled the pulpit of the Baptist church, and gave to his hearers a very interesting discourse.

Mrs. Wates Writes of a Recent Trip.

Mr. Editor: We have just returned from a two weeks visit in the home of Mr. P. H. Bussey, with Geo. and Eva, in the Red Oak Grove community, and knowing your interest in these good people, will write you a few dots about them.

The farmers are in a rush from day light till dark gathering their crops, and their crops are turning out so much better than they ever thought, and getting a good price too.

The school at Flat Rock opened last Monday morning. Miss Rena Scott of Williston is their teacher. From what we saw and heard, we think the trustees have made a wise selection in their choice of a teacher, and Miss Scott has a school that she can hold more than one year.

It was our privilege to attend services at the Grove last Sunday and hear a good sermon from Rev. G. W. Bussey. His text was, "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith; I am now ready to be offered up. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness."

Saturday being orphanage work day on Sunday morning the children were all asked to lay their offerings on the table. It was a sweet sight to see the little ones carrying theirs that they had worked so hard for. Little Drue Bussey would pick some cotton every day, so as to have a good offering, and this week he has picked to make money to go in his envelope for state missions.

I was impressed with the nice behaviour of the young people at the church. Something that pleased me very much was the number of young girls around the organ singing. It would be well for some of our town churches to follow their example.

We visited in the homes of the Dorns, Lambs, Timmermans, Griffis, Sheltons and enjoyed it so much. They recalled sweet memories. So much peace and neighborly kindness seems to prevail among them all. They are always ready to help a brother in need.

Mr. and Mrs. Bussey's quiet unassuming Christian life, will be a blessing to their children after they have passed away. There are a lot of good things I might say about George and Eva, if they were not my own.

Mrs. W. T. Prescott and her sweet little children visited me while I was there. She is the same bright noble hearted woman that she ever was. I came home feeling better than when I left, and hope I may continue to improve.

M. Wates.

Hand Painted China.

What can be more dainty or appropriate as a Christmas gift than a piece of white and gold hand-painted china or a little water color picture? Don't wait for the Christmas rush but send your orders to Miss Eliza Mims.

A Theological Class to be and Charleston Presbytery in Edgefield.

For the first time in about twenty years the Presbytery convened here on the 7th of October and was in session from Tuesday night until Thursday night. The churches of Edgefield, Johnston and Trenton have only recently been included in this presbytery since Rev. E. C. Bailey became the pastor of this group. It is called "Charleston Presbytery" because it includes a strip of country extending from this section to said city. Owing to the distance, the busy season and other causes the attendance instead of being fifty-five delegates, there were only half this number present. In this strip of country known as Charleston presbytery there are thirty-seven churches, only a part of which were represented at this meeting. When we consider the strength of Presbyterianism in this section it is difficult to realize that it is next to the largest protestant denomination in the world; the Lutheran being the largest. But it is not the largest in the United States. It has been truly said that this church is like the English government, in that the sun never sets on her possessions. On Tuesday the Rev. Alexander Sprunt of Charleston delivered a most excellent sermon on the supreme necessity of both individual and church being endowed with that power which characterized the Apostolic church. Wednesday morning and afternoon was devoted to the reading of reports and appointing committees, etc. Wednesday afternoon we had the pleasure of hearing Rev. J. O. Reavis of Columbia who delivered an address on his African trip, about which we have heard a great deal since and those who were not there will be missed by not hearing his address and the address delivered on China.

Wednesday night we had the pleasure of hearing Rev. D. W. Richardson of China, who held his audience spell bound as they listened to the interesting story he had to tell. Mr. Richardson was a boy who was picked by the church and we had an illustration of what a poor sickly boy can do by the help of God, for he was head in school, in college at Davidson, in Princeton, N. J., in Johns Hopkins Baltimore, and finally in the great German university. The fruits of this find we saw and heard in the person of Mr. Richardson.

Thursday was devoted to the regular business of the Presbytery, at which time the inadvisability of changing this Presbytery was discussed and the conclusion reached that we should not change the bounds. Thursday night the Rev. Geo. Blackburn of Columbia preached a fine sermon on the resurrection of Christ and the proof of the same. This subject was handled from a legal point of view. The Presbytery closed its sessions on Thursday.

The pastor of the church delivered a lecture to a large audience on the English Bible, telling the congregation the story of the Bible, covering four thousand years. All of these services were splendidly attended and both congregation and presbyters broke up the meeting with a good taste left in the mouth.

The pastor of the church here has instituted a Theological class for the purpose of investigating the Bible. This class will meet on Monday night after the third Sunday in each month. But it is probable that the interest in these Theological discussions will grow so as to require that we meet oftener, unless we are different from most communities. We invite all denominations, and pastors, to be present and hope with their assistance, to conduct this study without friction. These Bible studies will be advertised in the paper and in the post office, and we are sure that religion will be discussed on the streets enough to secure unusual interest. The first discussion will be on "The Being of God," and it is hoped that all who are going to attend this class, will fall in line at the very first so as not to miss any of the connecting links in the studies which are all naturally and logically arranged. The intent and purpose of this school is to shed light upon some dark theological problems, to enable us to appreciate the relations that the denominations sustain to each other, to concentrate the attention of those who are loose in matters of religion, to broaden the minds of those who are troubled with religious contraction, to start some of our boys and girls into active church work, to see if we can find one more Richardson for any of the churches here, to deepen the piety, to sweeten the spirit, to increase faith, to make this the most godly town in the state, to bring the churches closer together; but above all to save souls and glorify God.

What the results may be we cannot prophecy, but our sole purpose is to do good. We hope to have more pupils, from all the churches, than is commonly found in a single class, but if we did not have more than six earnest men and that many women, it would be a triumphant success in the end. Let no one be afraid of the light. The discussions will be conducted so as to fairly present all sides of a question where there is difference of opinion.

In this connection we might mention a few of the topics to be discussed: The attributes of God; the canon of scripture; the nature of inspiration; the nature of justification; the grounds of adoption; modes of sanctification; historical text settings; a full discussion on the person of Christ; doctrines of miracles and parables; the ten standard religions of the world in comparison with our religion; the one hundred and fifty denominations in America and how they came into existence; the doctrines of election, foreordination and predestination and the two great theological schools on either side of these questions; the second coming of Christ; the doctrines of future punishment, etc. These are some of the great doctrines to be taken up and if we do not have more than six earnest men and that many women, it would be a triumphant success in the end. Let no one be afraid of the light. The discussions will be conducted so as to fairly present all sides of a question where there is difference of opinion.

Please fall in line at the first and we will not have to turn the whole class back to rehearse what we have been over. We only ask that you come regularly on time and bring a Bible with you. We will furnish the best music the town can afford. One word before we close: this is no child's play. If you are anxious to have light on these subjects and others in your mind, you will feel at home. Everybody cordially invited either to participate or listen to the discussions.

E. C. B.

Petit Jury, Third Week.

- J M Prescott, Collier.
- G H Reynolds, Blocker.
- Andrew Ozts, Ward.
- E R Clark, Johnston.
- Brooks Dunovant, Pickens.
- L C Mims, Collier.
- J A Claxton, Ward.
- H W Quarles, Red Hill.
- L R Branson, Sr. Moss.
- H L Bunch, Meriwether.
- J T Gardner, Collier.
- L H Hamilton, Blocker.
- W P Johnson, Johnston.
- H H Williams, Moss.
- L W Reese, Meriwether.
- J H Crim, Johnston.
- L C Rich, Modoc.
- E B Dorn, Red Hill.
- J W Roper, Meriwether.
- P L White, Hibler.
- P M Markert, Meriwether.
- Sam Satcher, Ward.
- W B Williams, Blocker.
- L S Kernaghan, Pickens.
- J A Thurmond, Meriwether.
- T G Morzn, Moss.
- W S Marsh, Trenton.
- C A Branson, Collier.
- A F Walton, Johnston.
- W E LaGrone, Johnston.
- B E Timmerman, Wise.
- I M Dorn, Elmwood.
- W G Wells, Collier.
- J P Mealing, Jr., Meriwether.
- W P Culbreath, Talbert.
- M W Herlong, Trenton.

Good Shows for the Fair.

The arrangements for the county fair are progressing very satisfactorily. The grounds will be enlarged in order to make room for the aggregation of shows that have been engaged. The midway, that portion of the fair that is most enjoyed by the young people, will be more spacious than last year so as to prevent congestion when the crowd is large. The owner of the shows has assured the managers of the fair that Edgefield has never before seen such an aggregation of good clean shows as he will bring this time.

Beautiful Pictures Which Hang on the Wall.

Mr. Editor: So long as I can write or speak, I shall hold up the Confederate soldier as being the greatest man in all the world. But it is not my intention to detract, or say anything that is disloyal to this great union which now protects us all. We all look to the same flag, governed by the same laws, read the same Bible and worship the same God, but the day has not yet come, when we can forget the brave men who died the death of martyrs in fighting for their convictions. In all times and ages, he who has been willing to offer his life as an evidence of the faith that was in him, has been worthy of a place among the heroes of history, and we take the position that this should be accorded to every man who wore the gray. The struggle was an unequal one. It was not for the promise of glory that they entered into this war; not for riches or high renown, but simply because their country was being invaded and the south called for help, and nobly did they answer the call. And they were willing to defend their country and homes, even at the cost of the blood of her noblest sons. The result of that unequal conflict did not destroy the principles contended for by the south; and we speak of it now as a just cause. "Nations die and races expire," but truth is immortal, and principles based upon truth live on forever. No cause is lost which in losing forms the corner stone of liberty. To-day we can see a bright star of hope, when we hear from the lips of father Ryan, that soldier priest, that uncrowned poet, laureate of the south, his famous war lyric, which says to us:

"Fold that banner for 'tis weary,
Round its staff its folds are
From its folds a new banner
For there's not a man to wave it,
And there's not one left to live it
In the blood that heroes gave it.
Touch it not, unfold it never,
Let it droop there, furled forever,
For its people's hopes are dead."

That star of hope was for a long time after the war obscured from view from the desolate conditions of heartbroken homes, but to-day it spreads its effulgent rays of comfort over a proud, energetic, successful and happy people. Let us draw aside the curtain from some of these beautiful pictures which hang high on memory's walls. The chief picture in our group of treasures is that spotless, that immortal Virginian, the hero of Appomattox, the ideal of every southern heart. The very sound of the name of

Robert Edward Lee

Fills every true southern heart with a charm, like the gentle murmur of a "silver fountain stealing forth midst a bed of roses." We can see that gallant chieftain and his heroic followers on that eventful morning of the 9th of April at Appomattox. Some of those soldiers had taken part in Pickett's magnificent charge at Gettysburg. By their valor they had made the battlefield of Manassas immortal. Again, at Chickamauga, where those granite shafts now point skyward in loving memory of both the gray and the blue, these war scarred veterans had on many a bloody field, felt the flush of victory. But now the end was near, and it did not take a prophetic eye to see that Lee's illustrious army was soon only to be a matter of history. Less than twenty-seven thousand all told, ragged and hungry, having passed through a winter of extreme privation and suffering. Still the tattered gray uniforms, upon which the sun shone that April morning, covered as noble, as brave, as unflinching soldiers as ever breathed. Lee's immortal surrender was made, and it was left that day to disclose to view the ragged southern soldier; with head bowed in the presence of God, to whom alone he could look in that trying hour for solace and comfort, for though he had fought a brave fight and had done his best, all was lost save honor. Another picture well defined upon the wall is the heroic

Stonewall Jackson

Whose gleaming sword was an inspiration to his men, the lightning bolt of the battlefield; grouped about him was Pelham, the greatest artillery man the world has ever known, Jeb Stewart, the immortal

leader of the cavalry of the army of northern Virginia. But Virginia is not the only state that weeps for their children that are not. Kentucky, the fair daughter turns to Virginia her mother, and all her sister states and points with lofty pride to those noble sons she gave to the cause, the intrepid John Morgan, the matchless Sidney Johnson, the same chieftain, the wizzard of the saddle Nathan Bedford Forest, Joseph E. Johnson the darling of the Tennessee army. There is another picture on the wall that we will not forget. It is the private soldier behind the gun.

In reading history he is seldom mentioned, but it was the private soldier that whipped the fight. Without him there would be no war; no battle would ever be fought on land or sea. Often he has pressed the ice and snow with his bare and bleeding feet, with trousers torn, jacket rent, his blanket in shreds, his haversack empty, but he followed the battle-torn flag, and wrote in letters of blood on the brightest pages of history the names that will never die. It is the private soldier that will make the name of Lee, Longstreet, Jackson and other great generals ride down the ages. The private soldier, the man behind the gun, God bless him, dead or living. He fought the battle, slept on a rail on the ground; at dead cow flesh or anything he could get but when "to boots and saddles" was sounded, he was ready. And, when the war was over, he returned to the land that once bloomed as the rose. The trail of the mail band of the enemy was seen on every side, but as he went a voice was heard, "I will not leave thee, nor forsake thee," when he reached home all was gone except the queen. She was there to cheer and inspire new hope,

J. Russell Wright.

Edgefield County Has Five Banking Facilities.

Last week The State issued a special edition reflecting the condition of the banks in South Carolina. The Edgefield correspondent had the following to say concerning the banks in this county:

"Taking into consideration the population, about 20,000 negroes and 8,000 white people, it is probable that no other county in the State is better supplied with banking facilities than Edgefield. There are seven State banks in the county (no national banks) with a combined capital of \$234,285. This amount does not include the capital invested in the branch of the Bank of Western Carolina at Johnston, as the home office is located at Aiken. From the standpoint of accessibility and convenience to the people, the seven banks are admirably located. Three, the Bank of Trenton, the Bank of Johnston and the Bank of Western Carolina, are located in the eastern part of the county. The Bank of Parksville and the Bank of Plum Branch are in the western section, and the Farmers' Bank and the Bank of Edgefield are in the central portion, being located at the county seat.

"While the banks of this county are liberal in their dealings with their patrons, they are conservatively managed and are on a safe and sound basis. They have had no difficulty in supplying the necessary funds for moving the cotton crop. In the main, it has been the policy of these institutions to pay to the stockholders in annual dividends only a portion of their earnings, passing the remainder to surplus account. As a result of this policy, the banks have grown stronger each year and their stock has steadily increased in value.

"During the past year the deposits of the banks of this county have increased in the aggregate about 10 per cent. and the loans about 15 per cent. As this is an agricultural county, fully 50 per cent. of the loans are on mortgages of real estate and the other half are secured by mortgages of personal property and by personal security.

Notice, do not wait for the cut price Sale on Clothing, we have \$15.00 Special Suits and Overcoats, all wool, nicely made, fit perfect, \$25.00 values, write F. G. Mertins, Augusta, Ga.