

THE FESTIVAL OF OLDEN DAYS.

Corn Shucking in the South in the Moonlight Nights of November—The Famous Year '55.

Home and Farm.

Where is the man of three score in all the South who has not fond memories and rapturous reveries of the "corn-shucking" of the old South? In sober prose Charles Reade wrote a delightful tale of the harvest home, and in the book of Ruth we read of the gleaming in the fields of Boaz and the winnowing in his threshing floors. Whitcomb Riley in the most delicious verse in the world, and redolent of the soil, tells of the sentiment and the poetry of rural life. At the North, or rather at the East, they had the "husking bee," but only at the South, the old South, that is now history and tradition, was the "corn-shucking," and it was an adjunct of the "institution," as slavery was called.

I shall never forget the fat year 1855. Ceres and Pomona came, each with ample lap filled, and scattered plenty over the land, until the farmers, their wives, their sons and daughters, their man servants and their maid servants, rejoiced and made merry. Late in the fall when the harvest was done and field was brown and forest was naked and frost had heralded the approach of harsh and surly winter—in the month of November, the glorious season of Indian summer, when the feeling of melancholy becomes delicious pleasure, when the old year goes into decay that the new year may be born, when fruition begins to die to make place for the promised seed time of the promised spring-time, then was the time for the corn-shucking, the moonlight nights of November. But it is tradition now—it died with slavery and was buried with it.

Farmer Cassidy was an energetic and an industrious man, who ate no idle bread. His sons and daughters were dutiful and diligent and his slaves served as models for all the negroes in the vicinity of Pilot Knob and the territory round about in Barren, Green and Hart counties. His fields laughed with fatness that famous year of the '55. It is the "barrens" country beginning on Green river at the mouth of Little Barren and extending through Kentucky to the west of south till merged into the glorious Cumberland valley of middle Tennessee. In Kentucky we call it the "Pennyrite" to distinguish it from the bluegrass. It is very fertile, and fifty years ago it was mostly virgin. When it was first settled it was almost as bare of trees as the Western praries—hence its name, the "barrens."

When Farmer Cassidy gathered his corn that season of 1855 it made an enormous pile, a very mountain, and now in the splendid Indian summer the neighbors were invited to the corn-shucking and the succeeding feast that they might partake of his hospitality and rejoice with him. They came with their families and their slaves and all were made welcome. Early in the afternoon the work began at the corn pile. White and black, two and three deep, were gathered around the mountain of plenty, which was crudely divided in halves by the laying of poles from apex to base. The hands were also divided—mustered into two companies, each captained by a black songster and the emulation was which company should first "shuck through the center of the pile.

Who that ever heard it ever forgot a "corn song" as sung by the negroes of the old slave times? It will be a memory yet a little while longer, and then lost forever, for it is not to be described, and the so-

cial condition that made it is gone forever. It was to sound what the cakewalk is to motion. It was the germ of "ragtime" and at once plaintive and melodious. There was the leader who improvised the words and the chorus answered with an indescribable sound not at all unpleasant, and pregnant with what we might call rhythm. One leader that I extravagantly admired when I was a boy of ten used to address his words to some mysterious dusky belle of the name of Sally. It appears that Miss Sally was not kind, and he was telling her and the neighbors what he thought about it. There was a line like this:

"I'm going 'way to leave you!"

Then came the chorus, rich, round, sonorous, melodious and plaintive. As that died away the leader addressed some information to Sally of this import:

"I've got my books and Bibles!"

And that, too, was followed by the chorus half wailing, half rollicking.

The sun set and up rose the yellow moon to lend energy to the work and to the song. Faster were the shucked ears thrown into the crib and louder was the melody. As the shucking neared the finish a song of frenzy—some of it doubtless due to the jug of new corn whiskey that had occasionally passed from hand to hand during the evening—seized the whole course and they worked like mad. As the last ear was shucked a shout went up that might have been heard for miles.

Meanwhile the girls of the neighborhood were in the "big room" at the dwelling quilting and prattling and laughing and blushing. It was a race between them and their sweethearts as to which should be finished first—the corn pile or the quilt. Their mothers were with Mrs. Cassidy in the "family room," deeply absorbed in the discussion of neighborhood matters. The kitchen was the busiest place on the whole plantation and ruled with iron rods by the best cooks in the world—the old black mammies of the old slave times.

When the corn was in the crib, when the quilt was on the bed, when the feast was spread in the dining-room, the old folks ate first, and as they sat down to the table the tuning of a fiddle was heard in the "big room," the boys got their sweethearts for partners and the dance began. The old folks smoked and gossipped till midnight and then went home. The young folks danced and feasted till daylight, and even after breakfast danced another set before they dispersed.

But the rollicking fun was down at the cabin—here was energy as well as the poetry of motion, here was the laughter that came from the happiest hearts in all the ages. "Nae Cotillon brent new frae Fran e. But ho pipies, Jigs, strathpeys and reels."

That was the thing. We shall ne'er look on its like again. Savoyard.

Letter to Jno. Scott, Newberry, S. C.

Dear Sir: Devoe is worth \$4 or \$5 a gallon, put-on; how much is another paint worth?

Depends on how many gallons you've got to put-on, to be equal to one of Devoe.

Mr. J. J. Hall, Sheffield, Pa., painted two houses one coat, five years ago, lead-and-oil, took 40 gallons.

Last summer bought 40 gallons Devoe for same houses; had 10 gallons left.

Mr. N. Avery, Delhi, N. Y., owns two houses exactly alike, painted one with Devoe; took 6 gallons. The other with some other; took 12 gallons.

What'd you give for those oil paints? Bear in mind, you've got to pay for the painting. Yours truly,

F. W. DEVOE & Co., New York. P. S.—The Newberry Hardware Co., sell our paint.

PROVE IT ANYTIME

By the evidence of Newberry People.

The daily evidence citizens right here at home supply is proof sufficient to satisfy the greatest skeptic. No better proof can be had. Here is a case. Read it:

O. C. Barton mill hand at the Newberry Cotton Mill says: "Doan's Kidney Pills did me more good than any other medicine I ever used. They cured me of backache after everything else had failed. I suffered with my back for several years and tried all kinds of medicine but it only got worse all the time. I have had to lose as much as two weeks at a time from work on account of the terrible pain to my back. At times I could not stand straight to save my life and I seemed to lose all use of my back while the constant dull heavy pain prevented me from sleeping or getting rest in any position and I would get up in the morning tired to death. The kidneys were discolored and too frequent in action so that I had to drag myself out of bed several times during a night. I tried everything I could buy, rubbed on liniments, wore pasters and took remedies but it was just the same old backache and I thought I would never get well. Seeing an advertisement about Doan's Kidney Pills I went to W. E. Petham & Son's drug store and got a box. They went right on to the right spot. I used three boxes of them and my back ceased aching. I had no further with the kidneys and could get sound and refreshing sleep at night. I attribute these results entirely to the use of Doan's Kidney Pills. For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-McBreen Co. Remember the name—Doan's and take no other."

Closing Out Sale!

Going out of business by January 1, 1904. I offer my stock of JEWELRY, WATCHES, CLOCKS, SILVERWARE, TABLE CUTLERY, and FANCY GOODS, at

NEW - YORK - COST - PRICE. EDUARD SCHOLTZ, JEWELER.

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF NEWBERRY—IN COMMON PLEAS.

Milton A. Carlisle, Plaintiff, against Elizabeth King, otherwise known as S. J. E. King, Defendant.

BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF THE Court herein, I will sell at public outcry, at Newberry Court House, S. C., on the First Monday in December, A. D. 1903, all the interest of Elizabeth King, otherwise known as S. J. E. King, in that tract of land lying in the County and State aforesaid, containing One Hundred and Ninety-Six Acres, more or less, bounded by the lands of the estate of Mrs. S. M. Oxner, Levi M. Pressley, W. T. Coffield and others.

Should the purchaser fail to comply with the terms of sale on the day of sale, the said premises will be resold by the Master at the purchaser's risk.

Terms of Sale: One-half of the purchase money to be paid in cash, the balance on a credit of twelve months, with interest thereon from day of sale, to be secured by the bond of the purchaser and a mortgage of the premises sold, with leave to the purchaser to anticipate payments in whole or in part from time to time. Purchaser to pay for papers and recording of same. H. H. RIKARD, Master. Master's Office, Nov. 11, 1903.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF NEWBERRY—IN COMMON PLEAS.

J. B. E. Sloan and Louis F. Sloan, partners under the firm name of J. B. E. Sloan & Son, and Felicia Chisolm and Eliza E. Crawford, executors of the last will and testament of Susan Hall, deceased, Plaintiff.

against William R. Smith, Archie M. Smith and Samuel W. Travers, trading under the firm name of S. W. Travers & Company, Defendants.

BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF THE court herein, I will sell at public outcry at Newberry Court House, S. C., on the first Monday in December, A. D. 1903, all that tract, parcel or plantation of land lying and being in the county of Newberry, and State aforesaid, containing one hundred and sixty-five acres, more or less, and bounded by lands of Geo. T. Reid, estate of P. J. Coleman and the estate of James W. Williams, deceased.

Terms of sale: One-third of the purchase money to be paid in cash and the balance on a credit of one and two years, with interest from date of sale, to be secured by a bond of the purchaser and a mortgage of the premises, with privilege to the purchaser of anticipating the credit portion in whole or in part.

Purchaser to pay for papers and recording. H. H. RIKARD, Master. Master's Office, November 12, 1903.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF NEWBERRY—IN COMMON PLEAS.

Jno. C. Wilson, Judge of Probate of Newberry County, and as public guardian of Thomas M. Werts and Margaret E. Werts, Plaintiff,

against Thomas F. Harmon, in his own right, and as executor of the will of Cora D. Harmon, deceased, et al., Defendants.

By virtue of an order of the Court herein, I will sell at public outcry, at Newberry Court House, S. C., on the first Monday in December, A. D. 1903, the following tracts of land situated in the County and State aforesaid, near the town of Newberry lying on the public road to the steel bridge on Saluda river and on Bush river—they being subdivided tracts of three hundred and thirty acres and eleven-hundredths of an acre of the tract of land which is bounded by the said public road leading to the steel bridge, Mary E. Harmon, and Bush River, to wit:

No. 1. Containing forty-five acres, more or less, bounded by said public road, estate of G. G. DeWalt, tracts No. 2 and No. 6.

No. 2. Containing forty-five acres, more or less, bounded by said tract No. 1, estate of G. G. DeWalt, tracts No. 3 and No. 5.

No. 3. Containing forty-seven and fifty one-hundredths acres, bounded by said tract No. 2, estate of G. G. DeWalt, Mary E. Harmon and tract No. 4.

No. 4. Containing forty-four and ninety-hundredths of an acre, bounded by said tract No. 3, Mary E. Harmon, Bush river and tract No. 5.

No. 5. Containing fifty-one and twenty-eight-hundredths acres, bounded by tract No. 4, Bush river, tract No. 6, and tract No. 2.

No. 6. Containing fifty and thirteen-hundredths acres, bounded by tract No. 5, Bush river, tracts No. 7 and No. 1.

No. 7. Containing forty-six and three-hundredths acres, bounded by tract No. 6, Bush river, the said public road leading to the steel bridge and tract No. 1.

There is also allowed, which will appear on the subdivided tracts, a road or right of way of twenty feet wide, leading to the said public road, which right of way separates tracts No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3 from tracts No. 7, No. 6, No. 5 and No. 4.

Terms of Sale: One-third of the purchase money to be paid in cash; the balance on a credit of one and two years, in equal annual installments, the credit portion to be secured by bond of the purchaser and a mortgage of the lands, respectively, with interest from day of sale. Purchaser to pay for papers.

The plats are now on file in the Master's office and can be seen before day of sale and will be exhibited on day of sale.

The above lands are very valuable. Home-seekers will do well in calling on the Master to see about same before day of sale. H. H. RIKARD, Master's Office, Nov. 2, 1903.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF NEWBERRY—IN PROBATE COURT.

By Jno. C. Wilson, Esq., Probate Judge.

WHEREAS, John C. Goggans as Clerk of Court, has made suit to me to grant him Letters of Administration of the estate and effects of Fannie Riddlehuber, deceased.

These are therefore to site and admonish all and singular the kindred and creditors of the said Fannie Riddlehuber, deceased, that they be and appear before me, in the Court of Probate, to be held at Newberry Court House, S. C., on the 24th December next after publication thereof, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any they have, why the said Administration should not be granted. Given under my hand, this 10th day [L.S.] of November, Anno Domini, 1903. JNO. C. WILSON, J. P. N. C.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF NEWBERRY—IN COMMON PLEAS.

Thos. V. Wicker, Plaintiff, against Nannie Pazan, nee Nannie Wicker, Defendant.

BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF THE Court herein, I will sell at public outcry, at Newberry Court House, S. C., on the First Monday in December, A. D. 1903, all that piece or parcel of land lying and being situate in the County and State aforesaid, containing One-half of an Acre, more or less, and bounded by lands of M. A. Carlisle, R. C. Perry, Mrs. Ida Hunter and others.

Terms of Sale: One-half of the purchase money to be paid in cash, and the balance on a credit of one year with interest from day of sale, the credit portion to be secured by the bond of the purchaser and a mortgage of the premises sold, and the dwelling house thereon to be insured for at least two hundred and fifty dollars, and the policy assigned to the Master, with leave to the purchaser to anticipate the payment of the credit portion in whole or in part. The purchaser to pay for papers and recording same.

H. H. RIKARD, Master. Master's Office, Nov. 10 1903.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF NEWBERRY—IN COMMON PLEAS.

Daniel M. Werts, Pinckney Werts, Margaret Buzhardt, Fannie Sample and Emma Sheldgrove, Plaintiffs,

against Martha C. Werts, P. S. Livingston, D. G. Livingston, Elizabeth Langford, Lula Fellers, Alice C. Porter, John J. Long, John Long and Olin Long, Defendants.

PURSUANT TO AN ORDER OF THE court herein, I will sell to the highest bidder, before the court house at Newberry, S. C., within the legal hours of sale, on the first Monday in December, 1903, the following described property, to wit:

All that tract of land situate in the county and State aforesaid, whereon the said David Werts lived at the time of his death, containing One Hundred and Ninety-Eight (198) Acres, more or less, and bounded by lands of the estate of John M. Livingston, deceased, Ezekiel Taylor, G. C. Williams, the estate of Richard Moon, Rebecca L. Paysinger, and others, and by public road leading from Dead Fall towards Bouknight's ferry, and a new cut road leading from the place of William Welch, deceased, to New Chapel Church.

Terms of Sale: One-half of the purchase money payable in cash and the balance in twelve months, with interest from day of sale, to be secured by a bond of the purchaser and mortgage of the premises sold. Purchaser to pay for papers.

H. H. RIKARD, Master. Master's Office, Nov. 17, 1903.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF NEWBERRY—IN COMMON PLEAS.

The National Bank of Newberry, South Carolina, Plaintiff,

against J. Lewis Duckett, Nancy Duckett, and John T. Duncan, Defendants.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT herein, I will sell to the highest bidder, before the court house at Newberry, S. C., within the legal hours of sale, on the First Monday in December, 1903, the following described property to wit:

All that tract of land of the estate of Lewis Duckett situate in the county of Newberry and State aforesaid, containing One Hundred and Fifteen Acres, more or less, and bounded by lands of Dr. R. C. Carlisle, J. C. Hargrove, and Odell Duncan and others; also all my right and interest in that tract of land of the estate of Lewis Duckett assigned to Nancy Duckett, containing One Hundred and Forty-Five Acres, more or less, and bounded by lands of Odell Duncan, Charity Herriott, Indian Creek, and lands of T. S. Duncan.

Terms of Sale: One-half of the purchase money to be paid in cash and the balance in twelve months, with interest from day of sale at the rate of eight per cent. per annum, to be secured by a bond of the purchaser and a mortgage of the premises sold. The purchaser to pay for papers and recording of same.

H. H. RIKARD, Master. Master's Office, Nov. 17, 1903.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF NEWBERRY, IN COMMON PLEAS.

D. H. Wheeler, Plaintiff, Against Wallace Bruce.

PURSUANT TO AN ORDER OF THE court herein, I will sell at public outcry at Newberry Court House, S. C., on the first Monday in December, A. D. 1903, all that lot or parcel of land lying and being in the town of Prosperity, containing Twelve (12) Acres, fronting north on Boyd street, adjoining lands of H. S. Boozer on south, lands of J. M. Wheeler on the west, lands of Mrs. Wallace Bruce on the east.

Terms: One-half of the purchase money to be paid in cash, the balance in twelve months, with interest from date of sale, to be secured by bond of the purchaser and mortgage of the premises sold, with privilege to the purchaser of anticipating the credit portion in whole or in part. Purchaser to pay for papers and recording. H. H. RIKARD, Master. Master's Office, Nov. 17, 1903.