

WATCHINGS FROM ETTA JANE.

THE NEWS FROM LOWER CHEROKEE.

The "Kernal" Talks About the People of His Neighborhood and Tells All About What They are Doing.

(Correspondence of The Ledger.)

ETTA JANE, Jan. 3.—We take off our hats this morning and make our obeisance to THE LEDGER readers and congratulate them upon their new resolves for the new year, and congratulate them upon any successes that have attended them during the past.

The communion of the Lord's supper was administered at Salem yesterday, Rev. W. R. Owings, pastor, officiating. Notwithstanding the cold, bleak day a good congregation assembled. The subject of the sermon was the choice between God and Baal—I Kings 18:21-39.

We are now in the midst of the coldest spell of weather we have had this winter, and many people have had their potatoes hurt by the freeze. Giles M. Hill was at Salem yesterday. He is beginning to use his crutches a little, but he is awkward yet.

Butler Goforth, Sam Foster, John Estes and Sam Strain all visited the Sharon section last week. What's up boys? I judge they put on some big airs.

"Uncle Syl" went to Gaffney last week to pay taxes. He let on that he didn't want to take the trip, but we have heard him talk before.

Rev. Charles Roberts has moved to the Miss Mary Davis place where he will farm this year.

In my letter of two weeks ago I should have mentioned the fact that C. F. Inman killed eight hogs averaging 290lbs, instead of one weighing 275. Mr. Inman is one of our foremost farmers and has a full year's supply of provision ahead.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Fowler and children paid us a visit last Tuesday. Mrs. W. C. Blackwood spent the day with us Monday of last week.

H. B. McDaniel and family returned home last Wednesday after spending a few days in this section among friends and relatives.

The frolics are going on and the young people are full of gayety and pastime.

We have some young men in this community who are desperately in earnest wanting to marry. That is what their intimate friends tell on them, anyway. If some girls extremely anxious to get rid of themselves will let me know it I will see if I can't get these boys to go around and see how matters stand.

Mrs. C. F. Inman and her children spent a few days in the city last week visiting.

The roads for the past ten days or two weeks have been almost impassable, and there is still difficulty in many places. They are much better now.

P. Y. Peole has rented the Thompson mill property and proposes to run it this year, 1898, so I understand.

Jeff Blackwell came around last Wednesday and gave us some music on the banjo. He will not move out of this neighborhood as I have announced he would do. We can't get along without Jeff.

William Fowler gave the young people a party last Wednesday night. The rabbit hunters had a fine time last week catching rabbits. They caught a weasel in the time of it that seemed to destroy the smell and taste of the dogs for any other game.

There is considerable interest centered the meeting of the legislature. What will be done or attempted to be done remains yet to be seen. The public will not long be held in suspense.

A ghost visited W. C. Blackwell last Tuesday night and gave him some music. He said it made a fuss just like a saw in a dry board, or more like a dirt dauber.

A dairyman buys milk at 5cts per quart, dilutes it with water and sells it for 6 cts. per quart and gains 60 per cent. upon his outlay. How much water does he mix with each quart of milk? Somebody please give the answer.

Running a real one of these nights until 12 or 1 o'clock gives the performer a good appetite and is fatal to the cold pies stored away in the cupboard. The cream jar is by no means safe in such a crisis.

In these "piping" times of peace it's hard to find out what's in the wind. They have a way of getting up "select parties" by going round and telling everybody to say nothing about it, but to be sure and come, and in this way mongrel crowds are gathered up on short notice.

Dr. Jeff Blackwell has made up an ointment that he calls "quick relief." He says that it will cure pains that no other remedy will ease.

When we look around and see so

many connubial failures we are reminded of the mythical Persian bird Juffak, which has only one wing. On the wingless side the male bird has a hook and the female a ring. When thus fastened together, and only when fastened together, can they fly. Marriage is a failure without mutual help grows out of the union.

"Corncracker" desires the "Kernal" to tell him what the compound interest on \$24 will amount to in 271 years. It is \$25,388,820,037.09.

Will "Corncracker" please tell THE LEDGER readers how much corn must be taken to the mill to get one bushel of meal, allowing 1-16 to go for toll and 2 1/2 per cent. of the remainder for waste, allowing a bushel of corn to make a bushel of meal.

Our orchard diagram, 9 trees in 10 rows with 3 trees in each row, has been copied in the Christmas issue of the Ram's Horn.

When decent and respectable girls are ostracized on account of the misconduct of their brothers, it's time for the family government to begin a reformation. Shame, shame on the boy who thus brings embarrassment on those whom he should love, honor, respect and protect throughout life. If he is half a man, nothing, not even life, is dearer to him than the welfare of his sisters.

Bad company and conduct will lead a boy into the lowest depths of infamy, and all that is near and dear must suffer with him for his folly. Would that the young girls would stop to inquire how the young men treat their sisters. If they did they would scarcely ever make mistakes in their matrimonial adventures. Just as the brother treats his sister so will the husband treat his wife. This is the rule and not the exception.

James Brown (Aunt Sallie's Jim), who has been in Mississippi for many years, is on a visit to this section. I have not seen him. He came with Mrs. Davis two weeks ago.

C. F. Brown has removed to Clifton, where his estimable wife will keep a boarding house. She is the lady who said a few years ago that she wouldn't cook "Flaw Picker" a bite to eat if he was perishing. She is now one of THE LEDGER's best friends and Flaw will ever find a cordial welcome at her home. She has found him consistent.

The Christian Endeavor Society met at Salem last Saturday and elected officers for the next six months, viz: T. J. Estes, president; R. A. Foster, vice-president; Sam Strain, secretary and Walter Estes, treasurer. It was agreed that the society celebrate its third anniversary on Wednesday, 2nd day of February.

The poor drunkard does not chiefly support the saloons. He is too poor. The total abstainer does not support them. The "moderate drinker" is the man who keeps them in prosperity. If it was not for the support of the moderate drinkers, the traffic would soon stop. The old drunkards would soon die and it is only out of the moderate drinkers that you make a drunkard.

The following petition is now being circulated throughout the state to procure some legislation on the liquor question. It speaks for itself:

"The undersigned voters of _____, South Carolina, believing that the continuance of the sale of alcoholic liquors as a beverage within this state, under the sanction of its laws, is the source of most of the pauperism, misery and crime which exist, a positive hindrance to all material prosperity, and a foe to morality and religion, would respectfully petition the General Assembly at its next session to enact such legislation as will prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage."

Some people think that children can't be made interested in Bible. That's a mistake. Turn to the 16th chapter of Judges and let them read about Samson. Never saw a child in my life, especially a boy, who didn't admire Samson's history.

Mike Sellers paid us a visit last week. Mike ploughs every day in the year when the ground is in order and he is not otherwise engaged. He always finds work to do on his farm, and his orchard is one of the best in the county. He says shelled corn or peas fed to milk cows is worth more than the meal.

Miss Ethel Strain has made herself a scarf that for uniqueness, beauty and comfort is equal to, if not superior to many costly articles of that kind sent down here from Yankeeedom.

Miss Mamie Crosby will resume her school this morning. She is an excellent young lady and well fitted for her work.

Miss Bonnie McCluney is teaching the Broad River school. She is one of Cherokee's best girls and has a good school.

I learn that J. C. Jefferies will open school at Abingdon Creek this morning. It's impossible for me speak of all the Christmas visiting, gossiping, etc. Suffice it to say that everybody visited everybody and talked about everybody—but of course said no harm.

The young people, some of them, had a few foot shakings and Lum Mullins increased the plethora of

his pocketbook to the amount of a respectable fee for his service on the violin. Young people are young people, and we like to see them do so long as they keep within proper bounds. Our young, as a general thing, do not indulge in anti-Christian pleasures in open and contemptuous rebellion against church ordinances. We ought not to rashly condemn them after setting the example. Charity is the greatest of Christian virtues.

J. L. S.

CHRISTMAS AT BUFFALO.

The Old and Young Enjoy Themselves at the Christmas Tree.

(Correspondence of The Ledger.)

BUFFALO, Dec. 3.—Christmas always comes fraught with a variety of feelings. It brings to the minds of the old that another year has quickly fled and that they are one year nearer the grave to which they are hastening. They cannot enjoy Christmas tide as they used to, but remembering the feelings of their youth they rejoice to see others made happy. To those of middle life who have been bearing the heat and burden of the day, and who have striven throughout the year to garner a supply of the necessary things of this world for the comfort and sustenance of their families and those who are dependant upon them, to keep the wolf of hunger from the door, and protect them from the chilling blast of adversity, if they have been successful it is a season of rest and relaxation. And they can enjoy it by seeing their young friends and little ones so highly elated over the delightful anticipations of a merry Christmas.

The custom of giving Christmas presents, I suppose, has been in vogue, more or less, ever since the wise men of the east were led by the star to Bethlehem where the young child who should be the redeemer of the human race, lay in the manger. They presented him with gold, frankincense and myrrh. And Christmas is kept by us in commemoration of that event.

The school at Buffalo, which is presided over so efficiently by Rev. G. P. Hamrick and wife in connection with the church, decided to celebrate the day by having a Christmas tree at the church. Early on Saturday morning, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, there began to gather anxious ones—committees who had charge of affairs, donors who had gifts to offer, and the young folk who expected to be recipients of Christmas presents.

The tree, an evergreen, was soon loaded, and every available space under it, with toys and fruits for the children, and many useful and ornamental presents for the older ones. When completed it was a nice array of beautiful ornaments and delicious fruits. After the preparations had been completed the superintendent of the Sunday School announced that the exercises would be opened by singing and prayer. The choir sang an appropriate hymn. Rev. G. P. Hamrick led in prayer then a beautiful Christmas carol was sung with fine effect. Then Bro. Hamrick made a short speech to the young folks, after which those who were appointed to distribute the presents were called out, and they performed this pleasant task in a very efficient manner. Although the congregation was large there were few, if any, who did not receive a present of some kind. After all was over the whole thing was pronounced a grand success for the time they had to make preparations.

Many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Hamrick for their efficient services and liberal donations.

J. M. P.

Anthracite Coal.

For some time we have been seeing in the York papers that the Rev. Mr. Elam, a reputable Baptist minister, had been prospecting in the Kings Mountain section and in this county for coal, and Mr. Elam was satisfied he had discovered it in large quantities and of good quality. We surely trust that Mr. Elam is right in his conclusions. If so, this whole section will assume new life. Its immense beds of iron will be opened and their contents in ingots of iron will again be on the markets of the world and take the high position they once had.

A Clever Trick.

It certainly looks like it, but there is really no trick about it. Anybody can try it who has Lame Back and Weak Kidneys, Malaria or nervous troubles. We mean he can cure himself right away by taking Electric Bitters. This medicine tones up the whole system, acts as a stimulant to the Liver and Kidneys, is a blood purifier and nerve tonic. It cures Constipation, Headache, Fainting Spells, Sleeplessness and Melancholy, it is purely vegetable, a mild laxative, and restores the system to its natural vigor. Try Electric Bitters and be convinced that they are a miracle worker. Every bottle guaranteed. Only 50c a bottle at the DuPre Drug Co.

MR. HARDIN COMES AGAIN.

HE DEFINES HIS POSITION ON THE QUESTION

He Contends that Any Other Settlement of the Court House Question Would be a Betrayal of Confidence.

(Correspondence of The Ledger.)

BLACKSBURG, S. C. Jan. 1st, '98. EDITOR LEDGER: The proposition that I am discussing is whether or not the board of county commissioners of the county should surrender the bond they hold as trustees of the people for the sum of \$15,000, and take in satisfaction thereof the town hall at Gaffney and put on a tax levy to remodel the hall for court house purposes and to build a jail and, whether or not the trustees have authority to consummate such a transaction. My contention is that the \$15,000 should and will furnish the court house and jail, was so intended by the people and that no taxes should be levied for this purpose.

At the meeting held at Gaffney in September, 1896, the following resolution was passed:

"RESOLVED, That the delegates assembled elect a committee of seven to act as trustees to pass upon the validity and value of bonds to be given by the people of Gaffney, to erect the court house and jail and to buy the site. That said bond be made and its validity passed upon at Gaffney, S. C. Sept. 15th 1896, at 12 m." The following named persons were elected as trustees: J. D. Jefferies, J. T. Morehead, W. C. S. Wood, J. B. Brown, R. P. Scruggs, J. E. Mostello and N. W. Hardin, the latter of whom was elected chairman. Subsequently, the bond was made by seventy of the wealthiest people of Gaffney, to the trustees, to secure the erection of the court house and jail, to furnish the county offices with all necessary safes, desks, files, and other fixtures to make said offices complete; and the council of Gaffney made a lease of the town hall to said trustees for the period of twelve years, to be used for court house purposes, for the nominal rental of ten dollars a year. The bond to secure the erection of the court house and jail was for the sum of \$15,000. When the aforementioned papers were executed and delivered to the board of trustees, a trust was created between them, as the representatives of the people of the county and the people who signed the bonds and the scope of authority vested in said trustees is to be determined by the instruments that invested them with the trusteeship. The law applicable to trusts of this kind is:

"The duties and powers of the trustees are, of course, limited and outlined by the instrument creating the trust. He assumes control of the property, subject to all of the conditions and limitations of the trust, and he may not alter nor dispense with any of them, or impose new ones. If he violates his instructions or exceeds his authority, he does so at his peril." 8 Wheat, United States Supreme Court 421; 2nd Dussaus. Supreme Court of South Carolina 431.

What is the scope of authority conferred upon the trustees, in consequence of the execution of the bond, lease and contract?

The bond secures the building of the court house and jail within twelve years, the lease secures the use of the town hall for a period of twenty years for all court and county purposes; the other contract secures the furnishing of the county offices with all necessary safes, desks, &c., and the act establishing the county provides: "And said trustees are hereby authorized to sue for and collect the same, according to the trusts and conditions thereof." Now, the Act establishing Cherokee county, provides, among other things: "That any bond, contract or lease heretofore executed by certain citizens of Gaffney City to the trustees hereinabove named to secure the erection of a court house and jail, or to furnish buildings for court house and county purposes, are hereby legalized and validated; and said trustees are hereby authorized to sue for and collect the same according to the trusts and conditions thereof."

PROVIDED, That when the county Supervisor is elected and qualified and the county board of commissioners is legally organized for the county of Cherokee, the above named trustees shall turn over to the aforesaid board of commissioners, all bonds, contracts, obligations, leases and bonds in their hands and belonging to the county of Cherokee and then their powers and duties shall cease and the board of county commissioners shall then succeed to all the rights and powers (and to no more) of said trustees.

PROVIDED, further, That said trustees be, and they are hereby required to execute and joint and several bond to the Comptroller General in the

penalty of fifteen thousand dollars with sureties, to be approved by the Comptroller-General, conditioned for the faithful performance of their duties hereunder.

Now, the county commissioners have not as yet cancelled and surrendered the bond of \$15,000 and I contend that they should not do so, because they would not be carrying out the contract between the people who made the bond and the people of the county; because \$15,000 will build an elegant court house and jail; because if they do, we will have to be taxed to convert the hall into a court house and to build a jail which will amount to \$600 or \$700; because if they do, they will violate their trust, as trustees for the people and be without the scope of authority as trustees and because they have not qualified as trustees by giving the bond to the Comptroller-General in the sum of \$15,000 as required by the act establishing the county. When the county commissioners treat with any one with reference to the bonds, they act in the capacity of trustees and their action is limited to the terms of the instrument that created the trust and they can not act with reference to these matters, as county commissioners.

When the Editor of THE LEDGER and myself canvassed Union, Spartanburg and York counties, with these bonds in hands, and asserted to the people that the court house and jail, if the county was established, would be built by the people of Gaffney, without cost and expense to the people addressed, we then "had an axe to grind." I was considered "wise" and we then asked the people to "agree with us." They have done so, and upon our pledges and promises, which I say should be literally carried out and, until they are, I will have "an axe to grind."

N. W. HARDIN.

Problems and Answers.

(Correspondence of The Ledger.)

BLACKSBURG, Jan. 4.—I noticed in your last issue a diagram of the orchard puzzle which reminded me of another orchard puzzle similar to this one, which goes thus:

I am constrained to plant a grove To entertain the maid I love; The method that is here proposed Is nineteen trees in nine straight rows. And in each row five trees must plant, Or else I lose the girl I want.

The customer who bought the \$48 worth of sugar, as he supposed, and got but \$12 worth, received 14ozs for a pound.

Another problem: A horse in the midst of a meadow, suppose, Made fast to a stake by a line from his nose, How long must this line be, that feeding all around, Permits him to graze just one acre of ground. You occasionally speak of somebody's big hogs, but say nothing about mine. I have killed three this season weighing as follows: One thirteen months old, 320, one fourteen months old, 380, and one fifteen months old, 408lbs. Net, 1,108lbs.

Ravenna Readings.

(Correspondence of The Ledger.)

RAVENNA, Jan. 4.—Miss Isabel Blanton gave a singing at her father's residence one night recently. Although the weather was extremely cold a large crowd was present.

Ed Burgess left Monday to attend school at Woodruff.

Miss Addie Brown has returned to Cowpens to teach.

Charley Wells and Miss Eva Gibson were united in marriage last Sunday morning by T. G. Chalk, N. P.

Miss Bessie Bullenger, of your city, spent the holidays here visiting relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. U. A. Stack and Miss Ketura Littlejohn visited Union last week.

We are sorry to state that Ezell George's family have moved to Union Co.

There was a big turkey dinner at Willie Brown's last Wednesday.

School reopened at the Ravenna Academy Monday. A. B. C.

A Household Remedy, And it never fails to cure Rheumatism, Catarrh, Pimples, Blotches, and all diseases arising from impure blood, is Botanic Blood Balm, (B. B. B.) Thousands endorse it as the best remedy ever offered to mankind. The thousands of cures performed by this remedy are almost miraculous. Try it, only \$1.00 per large bottle.

A PHYSICIAN'S EVIDENCE—AN HONEST DOCTOR.

Although a practitioner of near twenty years, my mother influenced me to procure Botanic Blood Balm, B. B. B., for her. She had been confined to her bed several months with Rheumatism, which had stubbornly resisted all the usual remedies. Within twenty-four hours after commencing B. B. B., I observed marked relief. She has just commenced her third bottle, and is nearly as active as ever, and has been in the front yard with "rake in hand," cleaning up. Her improvement is truly wonderful and immensely gratifying.

C. H. MONTGOMERY, M. D., Jacksonville, Ala. For sale by druggists.

BUDEGT FROM BLACKSBURG.

THE NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS BEYOND THE BROAD.

Mrs. John F. Jones Entertains Her Friends—The Roll of Honor of the Graded School and Other News Notes.

Mrs. John F. Jones entertained her young friends at the Cherokee Inn on New Year's eve and gave them a most charming surprise. When the invitations were given out all were curious as to the nature of the entertainment, but were not prepared for an evening of such rare pleasure. The programme consisted of music and theatricals.

Messrs. Withers and Lumpkin gave several guitar and mandolin duets, which were received with great favor.

Mr. Gilchrist, who sang Carissima, has a voice of wonderful sweetness and his singing was a treat.

Miss Annie Lee Freeman sang "Afterwards," and her beautiful voice has never been heard with better effect.

A stage was arranged in the parlor and the farce, "A Box of Monkeys," was presented by Mrs. M. M. Freeman, as Mrs. Ondeggo Jhones, Miss Annabel Johnson, as her niece, Sierra Bengaline, Mrs. Gilchrist as Lady Guinivere Landpoore, Mr. Gilchrist as Chauncey Ogletorp and Mr. George Girvin as Edward Ralston.

To attempt a criticism of any one character would be unfair, each character was perfectly represented and the acting was finished and in many ways worthy of professionals. The audience was enthusiastic and appreciative in applause.

After the play delicious refreshments were served and the evening closed with many wishes for a happy New Year and long life to their charming hostess.

By request the play was repeated for the benefit of the Episcopal church on Monday evening and those participating won new laurels.

BLACKSBURG, Jan. 4.—The following is the roll of honor for the Blacksburg Graded School. The following pupils were present every day during the scholastic month and averaged 90 and over, on deportment and studies pursued:

- 8th grade—Miss Dot Urquhart.
- 8th grade—Whitford Duncan.
- 6th grade—Sallie Davidson, Julia Guyton, Bessie Rose Whisonant, Mamie Gaston, Ethel Maxwell.
- 5th grade—Jessie Summer.
- 4th grade—Belton Metz.
- 3rd grade—Frank Summer and Walter Betue.
- 2nd grade—May Anderson, John Whisonant and Maud Greenblade.
- 1st grade—Major Jones Whisonant.

Another jail has been burned. Four negroes confined therein tried to burn their way out and, but for the accidental passing of a white citizen, who hearing their cries, broke down the door and let them out, would all have perished in the fire they had kindled.

Misses Zilpah Pollock and Laura Lumkin, who have been attending the Columbia Female College, came home to spend their holidays.

Miss G. M. Beatty, of King's Mountain, is down spending a few days with friends in Blacksburg.

The Nineteenth Century Club gave a banquet Friday evening at the residence of Mrs. B. G. Gaden's, which was quite a success. The programme was as follows:

Instrumental duet—Mrs. Gaden and Mrs. Allie Osborne.

Reading of the minutes by the secretary, Mrs. Guyton.

Vocal solo—Mrs. Allie Osborne.

Reading—Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Guyton.

Vocal duet—Mrs. Allie Osborne and Mrs. Gaden.

After the regular programme was carried out, refreshments were served, plentiful in quantity and excellent in quality.

As the new year was fast approaching, the ladies of the Club, with the gentlemen's assistance, sang their chorus and bade their charming hostess good night.

School children have started in again for the year '98, to resume the regular work of study.

A man never realizes how near death's door he is until he reads the contents of a patent-medicine almanac.

Bucklen's Anica Salve. The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcer, Salt Rheum, Fever Bubbles, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruption, and positively cures Piles or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by The DuPre Drug Co.