

COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE.

NEWSY LETTERS FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

Items of Interest From all Parts of Sumter and Adjoining Counties.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mail your letters so that they will reach this office not later than Monday when intended for Wednesday's paper and not later than Thursday for Saturday's issue. This, of course, applies only to regular correspondence. In case of items of unusual news value, send in immediately by mail, telephone or telegraph. Such news stories are acceptable up to the hour of going to press. Wednesday's paper is printed Tuesday afternoon and Saturday's paper Friday afternoon.

SMITHVILLE.

Smithville, July 11.—There was another heavy rainfall here this afternoon, but it is too late for anything to do corn any good. The corn crop will be almost a complete failure here. It makes you feel badly to get out and see what a poor prospect we have.

Cotton can improve some, but it can't make much more than half a crop with the best of seasons from now on; and yet if reports are true, there are many places in a much worse condition.

I wonder where the government managed to get such a favorable report writer from Texas.

Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia and South Carolina give a very poor description of crops, and especially cotton.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Shiver entertained at their home, on July 4th. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Shiver, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Dunlap, Mr. and Mrs. B. McManus, and Miss Tessie Hatfield, Mr. and Mrs. J. Burkett, and Misses Nellie and Arrie Burkett, Misses Nellie and Gertrude Gillis were the guests of Miss Bessie Shiver.

Mr. W. F. Rhame, of Sumter, has a special invitation from Pisgah church to attend the exercises on Children's Day. Mr. Rhame was the first clerk Pisgah ever had. He has many friends who will gladly welcome him back, if only for a day.

Mr. J. M. Hawkins is now convalescent after an illness of several days.

Rev. and Mrs. T. L. Cole and children were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Robertson, on last Friday.

Mr. Wilson Josey, of St. Charles, spent Saturday and Sunday with his sister, Mrs. H. H. Evans.

Misses Rosalie and Abbie Evans, of Bishopville, and Miss Anna Holland, of Mizpah, visited at "Fairview" last Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Dunlap were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Dunlap, of Marshalls, on last Sunday.

Miss Tessie Hatfield spent last week at "Sunnyside."

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Robertson spent Thursday and Friday with relatives at Bulah.

Rev. T. L. Cole went to Bishopville Sunday afternoon; he was accompanied by Mr. C. M. Shiver.

CONCORD.

Concord, July 11.—Farmers are again getting their faces straight, and the old time smile is on again.

Crops are all doing nicely and free of grass. With favorable seasons from now on, the chances are that we will make an average yield of cotton yet.

The 4th passed off very quietly in this burg, everyone being too busy to take it as a holiday. Each year as the 4th of July comes, I am reminded of an incident of my boyhood days.

During the summer my father promised my brother and myself that if we would be smart, and get the crops in good shape, we could go on the 4th to spend several days with relatives living about 33 miles distant, so with all our might we worked to accomplish it. At that time conveniences for travel were hard to be had, no buggies nor wagons available, so we decided to hook up Billy, a little black mule to an old plantation cart, and make the trip that way.

Early one morning we started covering 30 miles through sand-beds and hills by sundown, which found us in three miles of our relatives, and a swollen stream with bridges and dams washed away, with no possible way to cross it. I shall never forget the terrible disappointment to my boyish dreams of going in swimming in the springs and nearby river could I have gotten there.

Mr. W. C. Jones of this place spent several days with relatives at Ferguson the past week.

Mr. Herbert Newman visited in the Rocky Bluff community Saturday and Sunday last.

Mr. D. L. Smith has the largest pumpkin for the season of the year that many have ever seen. It has only been on the vine about 30 days

and measures in circumference 5 feet and 3 inches. Will report more anon.

Miss Lula Newman of this place and Mr. Geo. W. Stafford, of Smithville, were married Sunday, June the 26th, at Concord church by Dr. W. J. McKay. The young couple have the very best wishes of this scribe.

DALZELL.

Dalzell, July 14.—Your correspondent is in a much better frame of mind than when he last wrote. We have a good corn crop in sight with no back-set from now on, and the cotton crop is improving very fast. After one of the hardest fights we have ever had we have almost conquered the grass and as the negro says, "we are most cross Jordan now and land in sight."

The constable here, Mr. Bateman, has been seizing some of the booze that has been shipped in here of late, and the jug trade is getting a little scare here of late. For a while it came in kegs, jugs and bottles by the wholesale, but somebody must be getting scared for its getting slim now.

The quarterly conference was held here last Saturday and was well attended, considering the large amount of grass in the country. The dedicatory sermon was preached on Sunday by Rev. W. T. Duncan, of Sumter, to a large congregation and was a very fine sermon. Among those who attended from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. J. M. and Miss Jewell Woodley, of Summertown, Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Folsom and sons and Miss Hughson, of Sumter, Mrs. W. T. Duncan and children, of Sumter, and a number of others.

The protracted meeting will begin at Dalzell at the Methodist church on Monday night the 25th inst. and continue through the week.

Mrs. W. S. Boykin, who has been down so long has been having some very bad spells of late and has been thought to be dying once or twice, but is some better now.

Two of the Misses Cook, of Rock Hill, are visiting Miss Edith Moore at present.

Miss Lula Garner who has been visiting Miss Clara Martin will return to her home at Keton on Saturday next.

Mrs. W. D. Scarborough is on an extended visit to her daughter, Mrs. McColl, of Florence, S. C.

Suit to Establish Rights of Church.

VANDERBILT DISPUTE WILL GO INTO COURT.

Methodist Bishops Decide to Bring Nashville, Tenn., July 12.—The differences between the board of trustees of Vanderbilt University and the college of bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, over the control of the university, will be threshed out in the courts. Such is the meaning of the action of the bishops in session here today. With Bishops Kilgo, Lambuth and Hendrix absent the college of bishops rejected the idea of any compromise and named a committee, with Bishop Collins Denny as chairman to carry out an agreed programme of a law suit. Bishop Hendrix, who is president of the board of trustees of Vanderbilt University, attended the morning session of the bishops and opposed the plan, which was adopted at the afternoon session, at which he was not present.

Details of the planned litigation were not made public.

TRIED TO SAW OUT. PISGAH.

Tricky Physician Failed in Trying to Escape From Gaffney Jail.

Gaffney, July 12.—Last Saturday afternoon while Sheriff Thomas was making his afternoon rounds of the county jail he discovered, Dr. L. M. Harrison, a prisoner, working industriously on the iron bars of his cell and was on the point of getting out. When the sheriff made his appearance Harrison had already sawed through two of the thick steel bars. If he had been left undisturbed for a short while longer he would have been out of his cell and into the ante-room with only one barred window between him and escape. The sheriff remained in the cell with the doctor to see that he made no further progress until help came when he was taken to the upper floor and lodged with the other prisoners. It is hardly likely that he will make his escape from his present quarters.

The hot weather that shrivels the spring wheat fields makes the corn grow. And corn is the main thing. And this is a great country.—Philadelphia Record.

A friend that you have to buy won't be worth what you pay for him, no matter what that may be.—George D. Prentice.]

They that govern most make least noise.—John Selden.

The hammer and the anvil are the two hemispheres of every true reformer's character.—Timothy Titchcomb.

ABOUT GOOD ROADS.

Mr. Belser Tells of Roads Seen On His Recent Trip.

Mr. R. B. Belser, who has recently returned from Minneapolis, where he went to attend the annual convention of the National Association of Real Estate Exchanges, was seen by an item reporter, and asked to give some idea of the good roads conditions as seen by him on his trip.

While en route to Minneapolis, Mr. Belser spent a day each at Columbia and Charlotte, where he was able to examine two representative classes of roads; Mickenburg County, N. C., having the best macadamized roads in the Carolinas, and Richland County, S. C., having the best sand-clay roads.

What Mr. Belser said about both the conditions out west and near home, follows:

"While the conditions out West are entirely different from ours, and the roads seen out there by me were principally boulevards, running out from the cities which I visited, yet I saw enough to show that the Westerners greatly favor good roads.

"I went over many miles of roads about St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Duluth, and find that all of these roads are either macadamized or oiled, and they are well kept up.

"The real estate men of these cities say that property along the boulevards, since having good roads, has increased in value about 300 per cent.

"As is well known, Richland county has the best sand-clay roads of any county in the State, and the day I stopped in Columbia, Mr. Owens, the Supervisor of Richland county, was kind enough to carry me over many of the important roads in this county.

"They have 400 miles of sand-clay roads, which cost from five to ten dollars a mile, per year, to maintain. The original cost per mile for making the roads was from three to eight hundred dollars, with an average of less than \$500.

To maintain the 400 miles cost about \$400 per year. Two carts are kept busy filling in the holes.

"On my way home I stopped for a day at Charlotte, where Mr. Long, the Supervisor of Mecklenburg county showed me over a number of the principal roads of that county. They use macadam, principally.

"The roads are about 30 feet wide, 20 feet being clayed and the other 10, macadamized. This is a very good method, as the clayed portion is used in dry weather, and the macadamized part, in rainy weather.

"To grade these roads cost from three to four thousand dollars per mile.

"All of the bridges in this county are constructed of steel and concrete, so that including the bridges, the roads averaged in cost about \$4,000 per mile.

"On some roads, I went out from Charlotte, as far as 15 miles, and found them well built and well kept."

When asked what sort of roads he preferred for Sumter county, Mr. Belser, said:

"I prefer sand-clay roads and think macadam roads impossible for Sumter county. One hundred miles of macadam roads cost more than four hundred miles of sand-clay roads, so that if macadam roads were built in this county, unless an enormous amount of money should be spent, only a few of the principal roads could be fixed, and the tax-payers on the other roads would, of course, be dissatisfied.

"In North Carolina, along many of the roads there are rocks in the farmers' fields, and all that is necessary is to rake them into the roads and crush them.

"Here no such conditions exist, and we would have to have the stone shipped in, and transported along the roads.

"Sumter county spends \$12,000 a year on roads now and if we were to follow Richland's example, we could maintain 400 miles of good sand-clay roads, and have \$8,000 left over per year to expend on more good roads.

"In a recent talk which I had with Mr. D. H. Winslow, of the U. S. road department, who is in charge of the construction work in Marion county, where \$100,000 have been voted for good roads, he said that sand-clay roads were unquestionably the best method for Sumter county, for they could be built for about \$400 per mile as there was very little grading to be done."

The United States senate has passed Senator Depew's bill regulating the use of the wireless telegraph. It requires all persons operating wireless stations to obtain licenses from the Department of Commerce and Labor. The purpose is to prevent interference with government and other important messages. The bill is said to be directed against the 50,000 amateur wireless stations in the country, many of them conducted by boys, the claim being that in many instances they have prevented the delivery of business messages. The bill has not been passed by the house.

MUST SHUN THE FAIR SEX.

Gen. R. G. Dyrenforth Plans Grandson's Life in His Will—Keeps Him Busy Until 28.

Washington, July 10.—Planning the whole life of his grandson and adopted son, Robert St. George Dyrenforth, from his present age of 12 until his twenty-eighth year, along lines that suggest Chesterfieldian ideals practiced by an austere Sir Austin Fevever—such is the feature of the will just filed for probate, by which the late Gen. Robert G. Dyrenforth, a wealthy patent attorney of Washington, who died July 4 at his temporary home in New York, leaves his large estate to the grandson.

Numerous conditions are named. One is that the boy, whose mother died when he was a baby, must abjure the society of his grandmother, Mrs. Jennie Dyrenforth, wife of the General, and of an aunt, Mrs. Rose Marie Nolton, both of whom live in Washington. The other aunt the lad has is an invalid in a sanatorium. The boy's executors are also directed to keep him away from all members of "the unfortunate sex," to whom are ascribed shrewd and guileful arts.

Young Dyrenforth, who is now in the keeping of kinsmen in Chicago, is expected to be ready when he is 14 to graduate from the high school into Harvard University, from which in turn he must graduate at 18. He is then to go to Oxford University, England, for a short time, then enter and graduate from the Military Academy at West Point and serve for a time in the army. Then he must again go abroad and prepare himself for the law. In the meantime, he must have visited the principal countries of Europe and learned their languages; like the 12 Miss Pellicoes, he must have learned dancing and the globes, and he must have become proficient in athletics and all manly sports.

And at 28, fully prepared to do life's battle, he is to commence his career with a large fortune, tended by careful stewards at his command. In every way the boy's mode of life is anticipated in theory, and despite the hardness of some conditions, it makes for a successful and enjoyable existence.

General Dyrenforth was 65 years old when he died. He had retired from the United States army about 25 years previously and become a patent attorney. He was very successful, and two years ago placed H. E. Stonebraker in charge of his Washington office and removed to New York, where he opened another office. It was while in New York that he died July 4.

General Dyrenforth was a native of Chicago and was educated in Prussia, graduating at Heidelberg. He served in the United States army from 1861 to 1865. He married Miss Jane DeLacey in Chicago in 1866. General Dyrenforth was war correspondent in the Franco-Prussian war. He was Commissioner of Patents for many years. His sending up of "rain balloons" in 1891-92 to determine if concussion of air effects production of rainfall, for which congress made an appropriation, attracted the world's attention. Dyrenforth was a commander in chief of the Union Veterans' Union for five terms and was a Free Mason of high rank.

Mr. H. D. Moise who has been in New York for the past six weeks on business connected with the introduction of his improved device for flushing sewer tanks is at home for a short stay. The flush tank device is being manufactured and introduced by Merritt & Co., of Camden, N. J., one of the leading firms in the country handling in sewerage supplies and they are pushing it in all parts of the country. Merritt & Co. are manufacturing the device as licensees under the patent on a royalty basis and Mr. Moise has been employed by them to install and demonstrate the device in the cities where it is to be introduced. As is well known locally Mr. Moise was the inventor of the coaster brake for bicycles, but failed to reap the full profit on his invention as he sold his patent outright. But in the flush-tank device he has something better than the coaster-brake and he and other citizens of Sumter who are associated with him in the ownership of the patents should make a big thing out of it.

WILL OF JUSTICE FULLER.

Equal Shares of Large Estate for Surviving Children.

Chicago, July 11.—Under the terms of the will of the late Melville W. Fuller, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, which was filed today in the Probate Court, the children of the jurist and their direct heirs will share equally in the division of his estate, which is estimated to amount to nearly \$1,000,000.



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