

Sequachee Valley News.

VOL. 4.

SEQUACHEE, TENN., THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1896.

NO. 1

THE GLORIOUS 4th.

Sequachee Celebrates it in Good Style

A Short Account of the Proceedings of a Day Made Glorious in the Annals of Sequachee.

The 120th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence has come and gone and we are safe in saying that for a sensible and enjoyable occasion no place in the country was ahead of Sequachee. The welcome ram of the day previous had brightened and cheered the country from the effects of the drought and the morning was bright and pleasant.

THE NEWS was in earnest in having a goodly number of visitors and they came and enjoyed the beauties of our charming town. During the morning hours the point of attraction was the Blowing Spring, Columbus Park, and a more ideal place for quiet enjoyment could hardly be conceived.

Post 53 held a meeting at which 23 comrades were present and a number of sons of veterans interested in the formation of a camp were on hand, but as it was found that on account of previous engagements, a number of the applicants for a charter could not be present, it was voted to defer the organization of the Camp of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., until Saturday, July 18th at 10 o'clock a. m., when it will be instituted, nearly fifty having applied for a charter. At noon all wended their way to the Spring and for an hour the contents of the baskets and other packages were discussed with a good relish in an informal and enjoyable manner. Comrades Watley and others wielded their knives in carving and it was a jolly, merry crowd.

A few slight showers about one o'clock caused the people to hurry to Owen Church, all good naturedly taking a little sprinkling in perfect good humor. At 2 p. m. when the program was begun the church was packed solid and the grove surrounding was well filled. The teachers of the Sunday School had lemonade, ice cream, etc. for sale and from that time until all was sold they were very busy.

Major Hill presided at the exercises and the program as published in the NEWS was carried out. Misses L. H. Hill, Myrtle Rogers and Emma Gabel recited prettily. Miss Carrie Lasater scored a success. The Musical Society did well especially in the Anvil Chorus, and Miss Matilda Gustafson sang the solos of Hail Columbia very effectively. Mr. Wm. Owen pounded out the Declaration of Independence; W. B. Stewart and L. A. Roberson, of Jasper, made patriotic and practical addresses and the whole program was well received. W. C. Hill presided at the organ.

But the culminating interest of the day for the people of Sequachee was in the evening when the drama in 4 acts, "Better than Gold" was presented at 8:00 p. m. The Musical Society as a prelude sang the popular song, "Paradise Alley" and the audience was held in rapt attention until the closing Chorus "We don't Care" at 10:30.

In spite of many untoward circumstances, the participants acquitted themselves grandly. Mrs. C. H. Pearson, on account of the sickness of Miss Roberson assumed the role

of Mrs. Garfield and played it well. Tom Payson played by W. C. Hill, was a hummer and his escapades will be the talk of the town for many days. Mrs. Graham as Annie Garfield, Miss Carrie Lasater as Jennie Joy and Miss Gustafson as Belle Gordon—all scored successes. Mr. Tom Richards as Perchant was good and W. S. Pryor as Dick, and Charles Curtis as Gilbert and James Thornton as Asa, played their parts intelligently and well. We congratulate them all and want to see them again. The introduction between the 2nd and 3rd acts of the ballad "Over the Summer Sea" was beautifully rendered by Miss Gustafson and was charming.

We are glad to know the receipts and profits of the day reached about \$20.00, another nest egg for the organ fund, and shows what can be done by making a good effort.

There was no accident of any kind or any disorder in town during the day and evening, and we trust all were pleased with the day.

But the NEWS will claim to credit of helping the matter greatly and for any good purpose we are ready and willing, if we see people ready to help, to stand by them and assist and encourage.

Two nines composed of players from Jasper, Sequachee and the Ridge, under the names of Jasper and Sequachee, contested in the hot sun Saturday for several hours, resulting in favor of the Sequachee team by a score of 17 to 11. They played very poorly judging from the looks of the error column.

We add to our subscription list three names from Kelley's Ferry this week. Now if some one would only send us some notes from that place all would be well. The folks there appreciate the liveliest and cheapest paper in the Valley.

It is only fair to notice the great assistance Miss Lydia Gustafson rendered in the preparation of the play. She was always ready to help, to read, prompt, or do anything. She was a help indeed.

At Owen Church Sunday last Rev. Jacob Houts conducted a special service as a memorial to Mrs. Moore, recently deceased.

The question in the minds of the people here is, will the road up the mountain be built and who is responsible for the delay?

W. S. Pryor will teach the school that J. M. Curnutt had last year over in the Havron Settlement. He will open it in about three weeks.

The Teachers' Institute at South Pittsburg closed Friday. There was an attendance of about fifty and all voted it an excellent Institute.

We regret to hear that Mrs. Millard Francis had the misfortune to fall recently, receiving severe injury from which she has not recovered.

Miss Jennie Watley of the Levan Settlement was quite sick the first of the week but is improving.

We appreciate the remembrance of the NEWS by Miss Dixon on the 4th. It was a good cake.

Huckleberries are ripe and lots of them.

LOCAL.

After the 4th what?

Mark Brown was in town Sunday.

Mr. D. Vinzant was in town Monday.

G. Sherman went to Chattanooga Friday.

B. E. Tatum, of Jasper was here Saturday.

L. W. Gabel went to Chattanooga Wednesday.

John Slatton, of Whitwell, was in town Saturday.

Will Price, of Whitwell, was in Sequachee Tuesday.

M. Burnett is getting out boards, i. e., shingles in Dixon Cove.

C. H. Davidson went to Victoria yesterday, on horse-trading bent.

Whitwell, Victoria and Jasper was well represented at the Celebration.

The rain has done great good and the prospect for a good crop in much better.

Mr. John Sexton of Kelley's Ferry, candidate for Sheriff was in town Tuesday.

Mr. J. W. Graham got out of his house for the first time to see "Better than Gold."

R. J. Brown left Monday for Altamont as a witness in the Burnes vs. Rogers case.

The late rains have set everybody to work again and planting peas is all the rage.

Mrs. P. M. Pryor who has been quite sick for the past month is slowly improving.

Miss Sallie Robertson at the last accounts is on the mend, but she has been very sick.

Miss Bertha Alder and Miss Ollie Vinzant were visiting the Misses Haynes Sunday.

Miss Kate Lewis, of Victoria, and her brother Albert took in the play Saturday night.

Richard Parkes, Joseph Green and Abe Kilgore, Jr., were among those from Victoria, Saturday.

Mr. Sherman has been attending Chancery Court at Altamont this week in the Burnes case.

John Alder was in town Sunday returning from Battle Creek, where he had been to attend the picnic.

Miss Ellen Gott, of Oak Grove, and Misses Lillie and Lula Ferguson, of Jasper, were visiting relatives here Saturday.

The Spring is the place Sundays, both for young ladies and their beaux and those who ought to be so favored but are not.

Everyone who was in town Saturday spite of the rain were the veriest philosophers and took everything calmly and quietly.

We did not hear of any serious breaches of good manners, although two or three people were maudlin and almost inanimate.

It is said that the production of the Brownsville poet published in the NEWS some weeks ago is taking card up that way. The boys have adapted it to almost every tune, and can't sing it too much.

TENNESSEE APPLES.

Allison or Jones' Seedling.

Origin Williamson county, in Tenn. Received from Wm. H. Smith of Leiper's Fork Williamson county in whose catalogue it has been described for several years.

Fruit large and roundish oblate inclining to conical sometimes angular; surface moderately smooth yellow with shades and stripes of pale red; cavity irregular broad and deep with heavy russet markings; stem short and stout; basin wide, irregular medium depth; calyx open and large.

Skin thin; core large; seeds few; flesh medium fine, yellowish tender and juicy; flavor rich and pleasant spicy subacid, quality very good. A valuable winter apple.

Mr. Smith reports that the tree resembles the Red Limbertwig and that it is thought to be a cross between the Red Limbertwig and the Pearmain. The tree is a good bearer and blooms late. It requires a good grade of lime-stone soil and will not succeed on high poor freestone lands.

BEN DAVIS.

Many readers of this bulletin will doubtless be surprised to find the Ben Davis apples placed with those of Tennessee origin. There is a difference in opinion as to its history. A prominent Tennessee Kansas fruit grower claims that it was first found in Virginia the scions were taken to Kentucky and there propagated. Downing states that its origin is unknown but that old trees are found growing in a Kentucky orchard. A prominent Tennessee fruit grower gives a very concise account of its origin in this State and the conveying of scions to Kentucky. The accounts are at least very interesting and it is to be hoped that the publication of the following notes will result in additional facts from others who may know something concerning the history of the apple in question.

Mr. Howsley of Kansas said the Ben Davis was one of their most profitable apples; he handed the Secretary his knowledge of its history as follows: "In the year 1799 Wm. Davis and John D. Hill emigrated to Kentucky and settled in that part of Logan county now called Butler county. They located near Capt. Ben Davis the brother of Wm. Davis and the brother-in-law of Hill. A few years afterwards Hill returned to Virginia on business; and when he returned to Kentucky, he brought some apple grafts with him. Hill and Davis raised fruit from these grafts. Capt. Ben Davis, finding the apple a desirable one, grafted the same for himself, as well as raised a young nursery of it. These trees were sold throughout the country; and, for want of knowing any other name, the people called it the Ben Davis apple. The Davis family, however, call it Virginia Pipin.

From Downing's Fruit and Fruit Trees of America: "The origin of this apple is unknown. J. S. Downer of Kentucky writes that old trees are there found from which suckers are taken in the way of propagating."

A personal letter to the writer from J. C. Hodges of Morristown Hamblen county Tennessee who

is Vice-President of the East Tennessee Horticultural Society and well known as a prominent and thoroughly reliable fruit grower contains the following account: "During most of the first half of the present century and up to 1860 or thereabout there lived on Nolichucky river within this county a wealthy farmer who name was Ben Davis. His son R. A. Davis now resides at White Pine Jefferson county Tennessee. On the farm owned by Ben Davis originated the apple in question. From the original tree others were propagated and for many years before the death of Ben Davis he raised and harvested large quantities of these apples. The house of Ben Davis was on the great stock route from Kentucky to the Carolinas. Many drovers made it a point to stop with him in going and returning the South. It was his custom to supply their saddle bags with this apple especially on their return trips. There was no name for the apple known to them so they called it the Ben Davis Grafts or scions were taken to Kentucky and the apple propagated and disseminated there before it was in Tennessee. I have obtained these facts on personal inquiry from the son of Ben Davis above mentioned. And besides these facts are well known in the neighborhood among the older people."

We will leave the reader to judge for himself as to the most probable origin of the Ben Davis. It is to be hoped that additional fact may be obtained which will affirm the account of Mr. Hodges.

This variety is extensively grown throughout the State. In reports from correspondents it is mentioned more frequently than any other apple. Most farmers are familiar with the characteristics of both tree and fruit. It is a rapid vigorous grower begins to fruit early and bears heavy crops. The fruit is not first class in quality; its symmetrical form and bright color when grown under favorable conditions secure for it however a ready sale.—Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin.

Invitation Accepted.

Accepting the hospitable invitation of Mr. and Mrs. C. Wagner, we visited them last Sunday. After enjoying a good dinner we inspected his gardens and found a good growing crop of every kind. The onions he has harvested are very fine. Visiting his grapes we found them looking finely and all with the exception of one variety were fully laden with fruit. We had some grapes and are promised more next week when they ripen fully.

Notice S. of V.

There will be a meeting of those wishing to form a Camp of Sons of Veterans at this place, Sequachee, Tenn., Saturday, July 18 at 10 a. m. All those desirous of being mustered in are asked to be present.

Per Order.

Thomas H. Hill
Mustering Officer.

Mrs. P. M. Pryor and family have removed to the Pevey house on Maine Avenue. All the houses facing on chalybeate park are now occupied.

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