

KENTUCKY MOUNTAINEER.

Application pending for admission as second class matter.

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Advertising Rates.

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S. S. ELAM, Editor.

SALUTATORY.

Just one hundred years ago, in the State of Virginia, Jeremiah Elam, my grandfather, was born, and six years later, my great-grandfather, Walter Elam, moved to Kentucky.

Jeremiah settled at Bloomington, this county, where my father, Leander, was born and reared.

Shortly before the American Revolution Joseph Nichol, my great-great-grandfather, on my mother's side, and his wife, emigrated from Ireland and settled in Virginia. A few years later they moved to Kentucky and settled at Mt. Sterling. About 1805 their son, Billy, followed the game into the mountains and settled at what is now Elam, Morgan county. In this home was born Jackson, my grandfather, and in the same home was born Frances, my mother. Within sight of this farm I was born. From the above data it will be seen that my ancestors, on both sides, and myself have been Kentucky Mountaineers for almost a century.

I have been greatly tempted to make my home in other States but I have always felt a peculiar interest in my native land.

"Wherever I wander, wherever I rove,
My heart's to the Highland forever I love."

I have seen our steep hillsides shorn of their forest cover. I have seen the virgin soil carried away and the subsoil laid bare to be eroded and carried over the rich valleys where it covered these fertile fields and greatly injured their usefulness.

Not only have we wasted our timber and splendid soils but many of our people are leasing their mineral rights. For generations our ancestors have worked hard and lived sparingly while their brothers lived on the fat of the land in the Blue Grass section.

Our "Grand old Commonwealth" has laid more stress on politics than it has on education. It has never taught the mountain people the geography of their own country but preferred to teach them the geography of the world. This it has regarded as education. We are still groping in the dark, hoping that our present Legislature will decide to adopt a curriculum that will help to fit the child to his environment. This will truly be education but it will come at least a quarter of a century later than it should have come. Had some such legislation as this, together with our present high school law, been effected twenty-five years ago I and many hundreds of young men and young women of the mountains of Kentucky could have had a decent preparation for life's duties in public schools rather than throw ourselves on the "Mission" or denominational schools. This would have prevented much of the antagonism that now exists among various denominations of our section of the State. It would have prevented much of the notorious name that these "Mission schools" have given the "Mountaineers." It would have prevented much of the disrespect that other sections of Kentucky has for us.

It would have enabled the churches to spend their money along church lines rather than to raise it for the "pauper mountaineer" that they misrepresented for which they raised funds. It would have prevented the clannish spirit that pay schools foster. It would have reduced crime, not by educating those who are willing to pay in these schools, but the whole people would have had an opportunity of gaining knowledge that helps make more bread and butter, as well as to give mental discipline.

This would have made our people more independent of railroads by teaching them how to conserve their natural resources. But our politicians have seen fit to neglect us until recently. Our mission schools have emphasized the fact that we were a feudal people until many good people who have never been in our section believe that the greater number of us are feudists and lawless people. This condition of things brings the mountain people into disrepute.

But we cannot change the past. Behold the present! The transition period of the mountains is here. The sub-artificial period of the coal measure which baffled the railroads for many years has been pierced. We have lost much wealth but still untold fortunes lie at our feet. We are asked to give these fortunes to capital. Jacob wants our birthright. He is offering us the bowl of porridge (ten dollars an acre for coal that is worth thousand). If we sell our birthright so cheaply then, like Esau, we shall be cursed by our descendants for being such materialists.

I am anxious to see our county developed but I am not willing to see our people give a fortune for a song. Every school boy, as well as his parents, should be able to calculate the value of coal lands. There are practically fifty pounds of coal to the cubic foot. By a little figuring we see that an acre of coal two feet thick has over 2000 tons, while a four foot vein has upwards of 4000 tons. I have been informed that we have a State law that prohibits any lease on coal to be legal for less than ten cents per ton when a lease by the ton is taken. This gives you \$400 an acre for a four foot vein.

But what is it worth if you choose to have it mined? At one cent per bushel it brings you over \$1,000. I have been informed by a man who operates his own mines that when his coal brings less than 75 cents per ton he stops mining. He also states that on an average it brings over \$1.00 per ton. This gives over \$4,000 per acre for a four foot vein.

Then too when our lands are leased and are in the hands of a single Company we are likely to have a railroad, only when that Company sees fit to open up the coal field, whereas there will be keen competition among various companies to possess this coal field which is today one of the largest and most valuable undeveloped coal fields in America.

As to politics, I shall advocate the principles of the Republican party as I have always done. I shall be free from bosses, cliques and rings, believing that our party is broader and wiser than any individual in the party, and that the party should not permit her proud banner to be drug in the dust by any living man because he calls himself a Republican, be it in county or National politics.

I have no "axes to grind." Believing that it is the duty of a newspaper to guard the interests of the people, I shall endeavor to perform this duty whether it be pleasant or painful.

I shall fulfill my mission if I give through the columns of the KENTUCKY MOUNTAINEER unbiased news and stand FOR THE

RIGHTS OF THE MOUNTAIN PEOPLE OF KENTUCKY, NOT THEIR WRONGS.

S. S. ELAM, Editor.

In your home and in your business you need our newspaper and in our home and in our business we need the dollar. So sell it along without delay and help push a newspaper while it most needs your pushing.

Did you know that if you have land, timber, livestock or anything else to sell that it would pay you to advertise in the MOUNTAINEER?

Do you know that if you want to buy anything that it will pay you to spend a few cents for an ad?

Call and let us quote our prices.

You are for a county paper and we are thankful that our county has many such men as you.

If you want to know the names of other public spirited people who help our county paper pay printers, rent and other bills just glance at the advertising columns.

Give them your trade. They helped us they will help you.

The next annual meeting of the Kentucky Circuit Judges' Association will be held December 30 and 31, 1912, in Louisville, in accordance with a vote taken before adjournment of the convention for 1911 at the Galt House, where the present officers were re-elected.

The sessions were marked by interesting and profitable discussions of matters of importance, including the care of the State's insane, the present method of challenging jurors, and crime conditions in the State.

Quite a number of our young men and young women have appointments that entitle them to free tuition in a county high school.

We can certify to the fact that we pay a good stiff school tax and we hope that our youths will be given the same opportunity to get a free education as is given to the young people of the rest of Kentucky.

We see no reason why this law should be enforced. The more money that people spend for education the less they must spend for jails, courts, long-drawn out trials and the like.

Perfection is not attained on this terrestrial globe. So if you find this first copy of our paper less perfect than you, yourself would make a paper just remember just remember that there are many odds and ends to look after in starting a newspaper, and save your criticisms until you have given us a chance.

We have secured the services of Mr. Will Hazelrigg of Salyersville. So far as we know he is the best newspaper man in Magoffin county. We have also Mr. Wallace Caraway, of West Liberty. He was brought up and educated a journalist and his efficiency is not doubted by any one who knows that for years he was owner and editor of Morgan counties only newspaper.

The editor has had some experience in the field of journalism and thinks that with this splendid staff that Magoffin county should have a good newspaper if the people stand by a home paper as they have begun to.

War Declared by Commercial Club.

(Continued from page 1.)

store's needs.

They forget that the Parcels Post Bill will be of mutual benefit to merchant and buyer by enabling both parties to send any article up to eleven pounds to or from the store. Did these people ever live a few miles from town? Did they ever have a pound of butter or other produce to send by Uncle Sam's mail carriers? Did they ever stop to think that the farmer has his busy season when a trip to the store would cause him to lose dollars? Do they not

know that this new law would enable every store in our land to become a mail order house?

Crowd out the country merchant? How absurd!

Our present postal law permits Chicago merchants to send a pound of goods to the purchaser as cheaply as it does the country merchant two miles away. Is this fair? Is it right that the Government should lose money on the big mail order houses and make it on the small merchant who mails his goods short distances?

A country merchant said in regard to the Parcels Post Bill, "It would enable me to get any package under 11 pounds sent by reasonable mail rather than be over charged by the abominable express companies."

We cannot account for the position that those Knoxville people take on this question unless they are stock holders in an express company.

Mr. Merchant and Mr. Purchaser if you favor the Parcels Post refer to our official directory and write your senators and representative. Have your neighbors either write or sign your letters.

Do it now. If you are against this bill lay low and let this great measure be defeated.

DIET AND HEALTH HINTS

By DR. T. J. ALLEN
Food Specialist

GAINS FROM IMPROVED NUTRITION.

Remarkable results have followed improvement in the nutrition of children of the public schools of Cleveland, by caring for the teeth and teaching them how to eat properly, for six months. Tests showed that memory had been improved 111 per cent. in one instance; power of spontaneous association, 84 per cent.; association by opposites, 48 per cent.; quickness and accuracy of perception, 22 per cent.; an average improvement in mental capacity of 52 per cent. Persons in middle life do not improve so remarkably by improving nutrition but there is invariably an improvement in working capacity when the general nutrition is improved, especially by saving vitality commonly expended in excessive mixing of incompatible foods. The case of a man at Economy, Ind., has been mentioned, who had decided to give up his general store, but after becoming adapted to a regime advocated in the Hints organized a bank and was elected its president and now conducts the store while performing the duties of bank officer and Sunday School superintendent; also that of a man past seventy, at Aurora, Ill., who having sold his store and retired from business, is again in business, the leader in his line. Many such cases could be cited.

JUDGE CHANGED HIS MIND

Chico Kid of New Mexico Did Not Propose to Have a Fine Imposed.

Broadway heard with some surprise that H. A. Du Souchet, the author of "The Man From Mexico," is a candidate for justice of the peace in the hamlet in which he pays taxes in New Jersey. Why he should want to be a Jersey justice has the big street guessing. The obverse of the proposition is the wonder why Jersey should want him to be a justice.

"Away back in 1878," said one of the old-timers, "Du Souchet was a justice of the peace down on the New Mexico line. In those days tarantulas and Indians were the chief native products of that region. Residents wore their guns handy, and tratu robbery was considered a profitable and not creditable form of speculation. One day the Chico Kid, being very drunk, insisted on being arrested. The marshal didn't want to arrest Mr. Kid, but the latter insisted.

Have Good Appetite.

The six elephant seals at the Aquarium consumed in the last month about a ton of food; to be exact, 7,951 pounds of codfish, herring and weakfish, or approximately ten pounds and a half for each daily. As might be expected of creatures with such appetites, the elephant seals are thriving and growing.—New York Sun.

Hard Luck.

Joe—"How are you, old man? Arthur—"Got a beastly cold, y'know." Joe—"Hard luck, bah Jove. Been going out in the cold without your moustache?" Arthur—"No. Called on Henry at his house, and that wretched dog of his persisted in wagging his tail and creating a draught.—Tit-Bits.

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March of Infantry and Cavalry.

The military march must be taken as the best index of the horse capacity, conditioned by the needs of remaining effective. Under fair or good conditions cavalry are expected to accomplish from thirty to thirty-eight miles a day, for several days in succession, but taking the campaign as a whole, the daily average is not expected to exceed fourteen to fifteen miles. This is the practical limit of infantry on the march; thus the two arms of the service remain together on the route.

Bullocks in English Church.

At Emmanuel church, Nottingham, England, considerable excitement was caused among the congregation one Sunday by two bullocks entering while the vicar was preaching his sermon. The animals had strayed from their quarters, and, finding the door open, walked in. They went into the baptistry, but the vicar, attracted by the commotion, got in front of the animals, and by gentle and tactful persuasion, drove them out without any damage being done or panic caused.

Not Final Farewell.

Lady Mary Wortley Montague once wrote a letter to her lover (whom she afterward married), concluding in the following manner: "There is no condition of life I could not have been happy in with you, so very much I liked you—I may say loved—since it is the last thing I'll ever say to you. This is telling you sincerely my greatest awakens, and now I will oblige you with a new proof of my generosity. I'll never see you more!"

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E. H. ATKESON,

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A Guess From Habit.

A man should not decide that a girl is a gossip because she tells him "something funny" Marguerite of Edith said. Women have the same right to discuss and criticize other women that men have; and they do not exercise it any more freely.