

KIRMESS BRILLIANT SUCCESS.

NET PROCEEDS OVER FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS
--COMMERCIAL CLUB WILL HAVE
UP-TO-DATE ROOMS.

6/13/1906

The Greatest Affair in Winnsboro in Years--Skillfully
Managed by Mrs. Sara DesPortes--Large Atten-
dance Each Evening--Popular Booths and
Their More Popular Keepers--A Great
Social Event.

The Kirmess was a success, a great success, even a greater success than the most sanguine had hoped for. It was a magnificent demonstration of what can be had as the result of unity of action on the part of a whole community. For once Winnsboro was a unit with all her citizens working together for a common purpose. The business and professional men had contributed liberally of their goods and cash for making the Kirmess a success. But it was the women who did it; they it was who by their untiring efforts and skillful management brought it to such a glorious ending. But there is one woman to whom more than any one else its success is due. In reckoning the far-reaching results that must come to Winnsboro from this brilliant success financially and socially, there is one name that will ever be associated with the Kirmess of 1906. What Mrs. Sara DesPortes did for making this second Kirmess a success will ever be remembered by the community with the same pleasure as what her sister, Miss Etta Wolfe, did for the former kirmess, by which some six hundred dollars was raised for the beautiful Confederate monument which now adorns the public square and which is still spoken of as the most brilliant affair in the past history of the town. When it was first decided to have this entertainment for raising funds for the better equipping of the Club's rooms, hers was the first name proposed for this delicate and arduous task of taking charge of the same. That there was wisdom in this selection is fully attested by the brilliant success of the Kirmess, which brought in over Five Hundred Dollars, net, to the Club and gave the community three nights of most delightful social intercourse. From the very first she took hold with a determination to win, and that she did. With rare skill she planned all the details and with earnestness and personal sacrifice gave herself to their execution. In the selection of the various committees she showed wisdom and the hearty support they gave her was an inspiration for her to push forward to success. The Club and the community is everlastingly indebted to Mrs. DesPortes for this rich contribution to the financial and social life of Winnsboro.

An effort is made below to tell in detail somewhat of the various attractions and the part of those managing the same. But general mention must be made also of the part of the Misses Elliott in helping in all the departments as well as their special ones, the Lilliputian Wedding and the Eden Masse, which were indeed drawing cards. Their services were invaluable.

LILLIPUTIAN WEDDING.

The attraction of Wednesday evening was the Lilliputian wedding, which was such a decided success there was a general request for it to be repeated. This lovely feature, which was the source of so much enjoyment to all, and especially to the bright little folks taking part in it, was gotten up by Misses Eloise Elliott and Mabel Pixley, whose names are synonyms for something attractive and successful, assisted by Mrs. J. M. Jennings, who has wonderful tact in the management of the little ones. The church, in which the ceremony was performed, was very simple in its design, but very representative. The bridal party entered from the hall, the crowd being kept back by means of two long white ribbons held by Misses Ethel Bagdale, Annie Bye, Mabel Freeman and Evelyn Gantt. As the bridal party entered, "Oh, Promise Me" was played. The beautiful Episcopal service was used, the officiating minister being Master Robert Turner. The party came in in the following order:

Miss Rebecca Jennings, in lilac organdy over lilac silk, lace trimmings and ribbon, with Master Clarence Bruce.

Miss Mary Seigler, in green organdy, white lace and ribbons, with Master David Crawford, Jr.

Miss Mary Carlisle Elliott, in pink organdy, lace and ribbon trimmings, with Master James Elliott.

Miss Abby Hanahan, in yellow organdy over silk with lace trimmings, with Master Ed. Crawford.

Miss Edith Bagdale, in blue organdy, lace and ribbon trimmings, with Master Edwin Freeman.

Miss Virginia Hausher, as maid of honor, entered alone. She was lovely gowned in pure white organdy over silk with lace trimmings, carrying a beautiful bouquet of daisies and maiden hair ferns.

The maids' bouquets were daisies and asparagus ferns.

The bride, Miss Zisa Bruce, looked beautiful in pure white organdy frilled and with lace trimmings. She carried a shower bouquet of asparagus ferns, white roses and lilies. Her veil was caught with two small white rosbuds. She was accompanied by

old Turner, who seemed to have a full appreciation of the honor that was his in winning such a lovely bride.

During the ceremony "Gems from Faust" were played and the bridal party went out to the strains of Mendelssohn's march.

It was a most lovely affair and two much praise can not be given those taking part in the same, both those who did the training and the little ones who did their parts so well.

EDEN MUSEE.

"Have you seen the Eden Musee?" "You must be sure to see it; it's just simply grand." These and many other expressions of approval were heard all around the room Thursday evening on the part of those who had been in to see the Eden Musee and who were anxious that their friends should also see this lovely attraction. Had the room for this been larger, it is very probable that not a single one would have gone away without seeing it. As you parted the curtains that hid these interesting personages from the view of the audience there stood Policeman Kirkpatrick, impersonating the statuary policeman in the ordinary museum so perfectly that one was led to wonder if he were standing up dead. Next came the heavenly twins seated in a lovely chariot, Mr. William Elliott and Miss Annie Bye, who in their beautiful white robes made a most interesting picture. Uncle Sam was truly personified in Mr. Fay DesPortes, who was the real thing. Miss Mamie Holley took the part of Carrie Nation to perfection. Queen Louisa was happily impersonated in Miss Isabel Douglass, who verily looked like a real queen in her royal robe. Peacefully resting upon a cot beneath an electric fan was Miss Lizzie Beaty, who was taking her part so perfectly that there was no need to tell that it was sleeping beauty. If Mr. Fairbanks had been passing through he would have carried off with him Masters John and Richard Boulware, who were taking the part of the Gold Dust Twins so realistically that they appeared as only enlarged copies of the familiar little picture that is found upon every package of this useful household article. The Father of his Country and his lovely wife Martha

Washington never grow old with American people and the true representation made of them by Mr. Chas. Stevenson and Miss — Parmiter will only serve to keep alive in the memory of coming generations their lordly and queenly deeds. The present too was not forgotten and two of the men most in the public eye were so represented, Mr. W. W. Dixon taking off the senior senator from South Carolina with his pitchfork, while the part of the nation's chief was taken by Mr. Longstreet Gantt.

This attraction which proved so enjoyable and which represented such hard work was managed by Miss Carrie Elliott, who showed great skill in carrying it through in all its details. It was a real treat and she is deserving of great praise for favoring the people of Winstonsboro with such an interesting production.

THE CAKE WALK.

The great attraction Friday evening was the cake walk, which had been especially arranged for by Mrs. DesPortes. When the sale of tickets for this great procession was over, there were formed in a large circle about a hundred men, women and children, each one of whom was buoyant with the hope of winning one of the three lovely cakes that were to be awarded. These cakes were to go to the three fortunate ones having the flags when the cake walk should be called to a halt. These three flags were given to the three lieutenants within the circle, who kept them passing up and down the line. After ten minutes of marching the music ceased. The flags were then in the hands of Messrs. C. W. McCants, Fay DesPortes and Arnold Pixley, who claimed the prizes that had been won. And thus was ended a most enjoyable feature of the Kirmess.

JAPANESE BOOTH.

There could be no Japanese booth without lots of brilliant display and beautiful ornamentations. These essentials to a true representation of the Japs was fully met in the Japanese booth, which elicited much praise. This booth occupied a prominent place and was enough larger than the other booths to make it attract special attention. But there was quality as well as quantity and this was the feature that counted

for most in making this such a centre of attraction. In shape this booth was an octagon, the roof being of the same shape. All the frame work was most fittingly covered in the Japanese colors of red and white. Here and there were all kinds of Japanese ornaments in the way of lanterns, parasols, fans and imported ware, all of which went to make it very attractive and brilliant. These were all sold at reasonable prices and buyers were plentiful. There were also the Japanese flags and in the back ground was a lovely piece of real Japanese tapestry, kindly loaned by Mrs. Heyward. The ladies who carried out this beautiful design so charmingly were Mesdames J. J. Dayis, L. A. Bye and M. W. Doty. Dressed in most beautiful costumes Misses Nannie Neil, Mollie Smith and Rebecca Walker went about the hall adding good cheer by their pleasing manners.

SWISS BOOTH.

There is a real charm in simplicity, especially when the effect produced is all that could be desired. This feature was a marked characteristic of the Swiss booth. There was nothing elaborate about it and no special effort at ornamentation, though the effect produced was one of comfort and happiness. The frame work was the simple outline of a little cottage without any walls. The roof was of pink and around the framework was the grape vine, which are always associated with the typical Swiss cottage. In a most simple homelike manner this lovely little home was presided over by Mrs. T. H. Ketchin and Miss Maggie Elder. Two young maidens, Misses Winnie McMaster and Isabel Godding, dressed in simple suggestive Swiss costumes, by their winning manners added much towards making this a complete representation of that happiness that comes from the home life of these people across the water. A remarkable thing about this booth was that there was actually something free in it, some delightful Swiss cheese. This doesn't mean to say that there no were toys and other ornaments for sale. They were there, and they sold too right along.

FRENCH BOOTH.

Take four one-by-three strips

about six feet long, tack them to a little table, then join them at the top by means of still shorter strips and there is nothing especially attractive about that. You may even decorate this framework with beautiful paper of pink and blue and then add green and other ornaments, and you only have a booth, showing the skillful touch of a woman's hand. Place upon this table delightful home-made candy that would make even Huyler wonder, if he is still holding his own in the making of tempting chocolates and bon-bons, and there is lacking still the hands that made these delicious delicacies. But when two young ladies, who know the charms of entertaining as well as the secret of making candy that goes like hot cake, take their places behind the table, the picture becomes one of real life and there is an advertisement that even printer's ink acknowledges the superiority of. The French booth, under the charge of Misses Mamie Jordan and Mary Y. Ellison, if not the most elaborate, was certainly one of the most attractive. No happier selection for this sweet booth could have been made. A beautiful Confederate flag in the back ground added much to their decorations.

NUNNERY.

The needle has long been the source of pleasant pastime to woman, whether it be the old knitting needle that was so largely in vogue before machines came into so large use, or the needle with which she has had to do the thousand and one little stitches about the home, or the crochet needle with which she has produced works of ornamentation for every room in the house from the kitchen to the parlor, from the cellar to the garret. There is no collection that is ever prettier than one made up of the various odds and ends that woman has wrought with the needle. A display of fancy hand-made work is one that always interests and from the beautiful collections of these various little articles that were on exhibition in the nunnery, one would be easily persuaded that the women of Winnsboro easily excel in this respect. In uniqueness of design there was no booth, in the hall that attracted more attention. It consisted of three large columns with one extending out beyond

the other two. Between these were little gates. Within were small tables for holding the beautiful articles that the ladies had contributed as an evidence of their interest in making the Kirmess a success. The young ladies in charge of this were Misses Mary Witherow and Laura Gerig, who are always in demand for making a proper exhibit of fancy work. The nuns were Misses Ethel Bagnsdale, Evelyn Gantt and Mabel Freeman.

ARCTIC REGION.

In the good old summer time it would not be thought the thing to have any entertainment without having ices served. However, even as tempting dishes as ice cream and sherbet, became all the more palatable under surroundings that suggest cold without. Such suggestive surroundings as well as the warm weather counted for much in making the arctic region a place of great popularity every evening of the Kirmess. This popular resort was located in the front end of the armory and was cut off from the rest of the hall by a low partition, which was beautifully festooned in evergreens laden with snow. In the midst was a typical Eskimo hut that was most attractive in design and artistically executed. Around were several tables, where old and young alike gathered to be cooled off. This booth was in charge of Mrs. T. K. Elliott, who was most efficiently assisted by Mesdames B. E. Ellison, W. G. Jordan and C. M. Chandler. No four ladies, who assisted in making the Kirmess a success, had heavier work than these and none did their parts any better. Each evening they were assisted by a bery of young maidens, who in their beautiful white robes made a living picture of purity fully in keeping with that suggested by the lovely white snow, that falls not sparingly in the arctic regions.

OLD CURIOSITY SHOP.

If there was anything lacking on this heavily draped little booth on the outside to suggest why it should have been so named, a mere peep on the inside was proof positive that any other name would not have been appropriate. It was indeed a curiosity shop, one in which curious things were brought together in such a way as to suggest that there had been real thinking behind this rare collection of curios. Mrs. Brock-

ington was a most happy selection for taking charge of this booth, and as she explained in her charming manner the labeling of the different items in this collection, it became all the more interesting. A list of a few of these are given merely as suggestive of what this curiosity shop really contained:

- Things to make you smart—a bundle of pepper pods.
- Dear in winter—a box of soft coal.
- The wide, wide world—an atlas with a world map.
- Things to adore—a box of door knobs.
- Recollections from childhood—a bundle of switches.
- Our pastor's early home—a baby carriage.
- Charge of the light brigade—an electric light bill for lights that have not yet been used.
- Things that end in smoke—a package of cigars.
- Sweet sixteen—sixteen lumps of sugar.
- An absorbing subject—a sponge.
- Kids at rest—kid gloves in a box.
- Maid of Orleans—a plate of molasses candy.
- The lay of the last minstrel—an egg.

REBECCA AT THE WELL.

The old, old story of Isaac's first meeting Rebecca at the well is one that loses none of its beauty in the onward march of time, for love still holds sway over the hearts of men and women, however varied the conditions under which two lives are brought in unison. How suggestive then at a gathering of this kind where are gathered together those whose lives have been brought under the control of this mysterious god or those who are hoping that the lightning will strike sooner or later that there be something to remind of the work of Cupid other than that may be seen in the young people as they add to the happiness of the occasion by the smiles that are playing upon their faces. So "Rebecca at the Well" was a happy conception and no less happily carried out. Within a little hexagonal inclosure was a real well into which were let down buckets from which were dipped ice cold lemonade. The young ladies to whom was entrusted the delightful pleasure of dispensing this most refreshing and ever popular drink were

Misses Susie and Tirzah Ketchin, who, though kept continuously busy each evening, ever had a pleasant word for each customer to make the stop at the well all the more enjoyable.

CAKE BOOTH.

Cake is one word that always suggests something good and the very height of the culinary art is ever to be expected here. With a few beautiful cakes set upon a table there is nothing else needed in the way of ornamentation, for these are always an ornament within themselves. So there was no special need for elaborate decorations for the cake booth. This booth was small, though the trimmings of white and lilac were put around in such an artistic way as to attract much favorable comment upon the part of all. Mrs. A. G. Quattlebaum was in charge of this most tastily arranged little booth, which, under her skillful management, was very popular indeed.

THE SUPPER.

Of course there could be no Kirmess without having supper served. It is just impossible for women ever to consent to have a share in any entertainment without providing some exhibition of their wonderful skill in the culinary department. And judging from the good things that were being offered on this occasion they are still adepts in this line. The supper was not an elaborate one. Ham sandwiches and chicken salad constituted the meat course. To drink there was either the hot of coffee or refreshing ice tea. Supper was served each night by young ladies, who seemed to take the very greatest delight in seeing that each one was waited on in such a way as to get full money's worth. Mrs. W. A. Boaty, Mrs. Obear and Miss Rebecca Buchanan looked after the supper in that same careful manner that makes them so much in demand for these occasions. A more faithful committee can not be found anywhere, and their efficient service is greatly appreciated.

THE COUNTRY STORE.

This was the name given the booth in which were placed the numerous contributions of the various merchants; and when these were all in, there was lacking neither quantity nor variety. These goods were all sold at auction and the amounts realized were most satisfactory. The auc-

tioner was Mr. A. M. Owens, who always performs this crying act with credit to himself and satisfaction to his patrons.

MOST POPULAR LADY.

A day or two before the holding of the Kirmess Mrs. DesPortes went to Columbia and while there several of the Columbia merchants made contributions of various articles as an expression of their interest in anything connected with Winnsboro's advancement. The Warren-Allen Company gave a lovely piece of statuary, J. L. Tapp Company a beautiful dish, J. L. Mimnaugh & Co. a fine umbrella, and Sylvan Brothers a handsome gold ring set with a ruby. It was decided that this ring should go to the young lady who should be voted the most popular. The cost of a vote was only five cents and as an evidence that the interest in this contest was intense there was cast a total of 1,655 votes, of which Miss Carrie Elliott received 714 and Miss Mamie Jordan 604. This ring will be worthily worn by its lucky recipient.

FINALE.

It was after 12 o'clock Friday evening when the crowds left the armory, which for three evenings had been a centre of attraction. There were present each evening more than 250 people and from one and all there was the one expression, "A brilliant success." That six hundred dollars should be spent here in three evenings at this season of the year was a surprise to all and is a fine indication that there are men in Winnsboro who are willing to spend their money for the advancement of the town. The social feature was fine, as the people were brought to know each other better than ever before. The Kirmess has been worth all the time and labor and money that was spent in bringing it off.