

P18641

# Mercer Healing Springs

NEAR ATHENS, MERCER COUNTY, W. VA.    ::    ::    ALTITUDE 2,500 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL

R. G. MEADOR, *Proprietor*

J. H. MULFORD, *Manager*

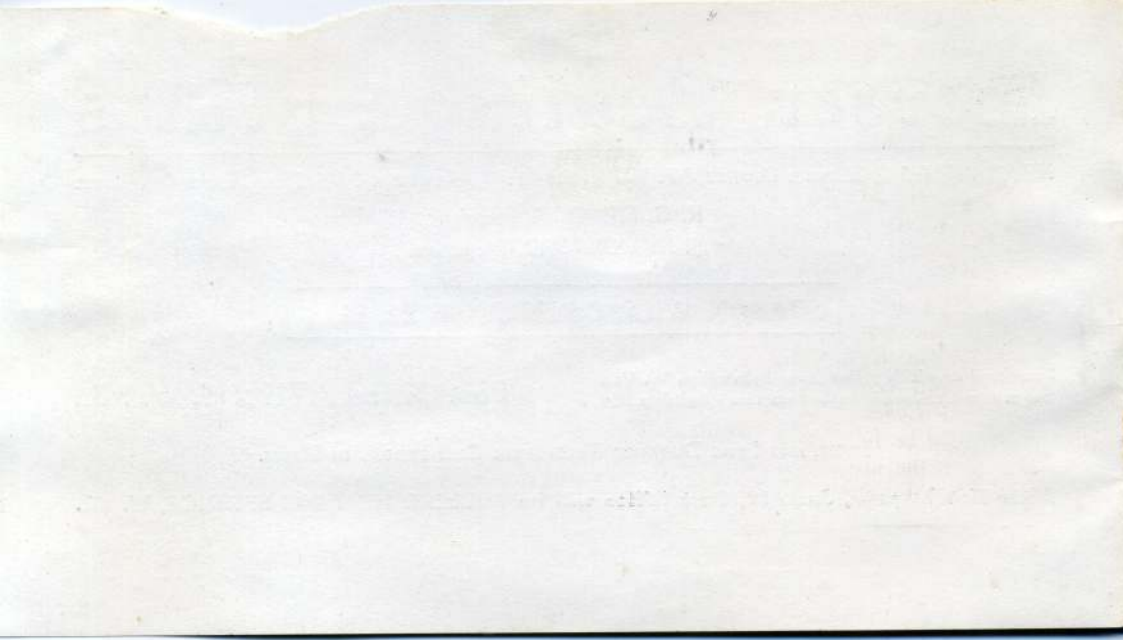
**SEASON WILL OPEN JUNE 22, 1916**

Four and one-half miles from Princeton, W. Va.,  
the nearest railroad station on the Virginian Ry.

**Post Office, ATHENS, W. VA.**

LOCAL AND LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN HOTEL

**After Hotel Opens, June 22, Post Office will be MERCER HEALING SPRINGS, W. VA.**



## History and Location

THE MERCER HEALING SPRINGS has been known locally for about fifty years; but only recently has its waters begun to attract wide attention, and found to contain such wonderful curative and healing properties. It is located about two and one-half miles west of the town of Athens, West Virginia, four and one-half miles northeast of the City of Princeton, the nearest railroad station, and sixteen miles from Bluefield, West Virginia, on the Norfolk & Western Railway, in the mountains of West Virginia. Its altitude is about 2,500 feet. The climate and scenery for the summer is just ideal. *Why spend money and time to go to the Great Lakes and seashore to spend your outings, when more rest and improvement of health can be found so near—by drinking the water of the Mercer Healing Spring, and resting in the many shady nooks and corners to be found on the surrounding grounds?* The tall oaks, chestnuts, pines and other trees of the virgin forests of the mountain State

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of West Virginia are found in abundance, distributed over the lands owned by the Springs. All these are pleasing to the eye and restful to the body, both to those who are sick and to those who are weary. Why not come to these Springs and drink this water a few weeks or months, and feel like yourself once more?



### The Spring and Surroundings

The spring is about seventy-five yards from the new modern hotel, just completed a few years ago, and from seventy-five to one hundred yards from the five furnished cottages. Beautiful oaks and other shade trees stand near by. The spring has been improved by placing over and around it an octagon pavilion concrete base, with sparkling water boiling up in the center as clear and pure as crystal. The temperature is an average of forty-eight degrees Fahrenheit, making it just nice and cool for drinking. It is quite pleasant to the taste and can be taken freely. No bad taste whatever.

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THE HOTEL

## The Water

While the water is exceptionally clear and sparkling, there is an abundant deposit precipitated upon the material over which it flows, which deposit can be utilized as an external dressing for sores, ulcerated surfaces and eruptions in many forms of skin diseases. This water in every sense of the word is a truly "**Alkaline-Calcic-Chalybeate Water,**" with the happy blending of its medicinal constituents in such form as to act systematically and efficiently on the three excretory routes of the human economy; viz., the skin, kidneys and bowels. It belongs to the class known as "light waters," and may, therefore, be taken in large quantities without any unpleasant or harmful effects. The water, when taken in considerable quantity, has an *exhilarating* effect, producing a sense of "well-being" soon after taking it freely. Its field of usefulness as a medicant is wide, when we think of the numerous ailments affecting the skin, kidneys, bladder, stomach and bowels, where the water has its special action, imparting to each a special "alterative tonic" action, simulating *Nature's restorative functioning*. See Testimonials in back of this book.

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## Analysis

In order that the public at large may have a knowledge of the potency of the medical properties of this very valuable water, we give below a copy of the analysis:

No. 23166.

BALTIMORE, MD., July 13, 1907.

**Report on an Analysis of a Sample of Mineral Water Received July 10, 1907, from and for Account of Dr. D. H. Thornton, Athens, W. Va.**

CONDITION—Clear, colorless, odorless, taste saline, slightly bitter.

REACTION—Faintly alkaline to litmus.

### ONE MILLION PARTS CONTAIN:

Residue upon evaporation.....	187.0 parts
Residue upon ignition.....	169.0 parts
Volatile .....	18.0 parts

## Sanitary Parts

Chlorine .....	1.42
Nitrogen as Ammonia free .....	0.122
Nitrogen as Ammonia Albuminoid .....	0.064
Nitrogen as Nitric Acid .....	0.02
Nitrogen as Nitrites .....	0.000
Oxygen absorbed .....	0.9
Carbon-dioxide free .....	4.4
Carbon-dioxide half free .....	48.4
Carbon-dioxide combined .....	72.7



Mineral Parts

Sodium Chloride .....	2.34
Sodium Carbonate .....	9.22
Sodium and Potassium Bicarbonate .....	36.30
Calcium Bicarbonate .....	125.70
Silica .....	15.40
Oxide of Iron .....	3.40
Magnesium Carbonate .....	17.89
Magnesium Sulphate .....	8.75
Strontia and Lithia by Spectroscope absent.	

Excellent, Pure Water, Slightly Purgative.

C. GLASER,  
Analytical and Consulting Chemist.

This water is of that class that can be shipped any distance, and if kept well corked and sealed will retain its medicinal qualities for any length of time.



### In Regard to Shipping

Orders will be filled as follows, free on board Virginian Railway, Princeton, W. Va.: \$3.00 for one crate of twelve one-half gallon bottles. A credit of \$1.50 will be allowed for return of crate and bottles in good condition, or \$1.50 for each five gallon bottle crated and 50 cents refunded on return of each bottle in good order.

All orders should be addressed to Mercer Healing Springs, Athens, W. Va., up to June 22d and then to Mercer Healing Springs Post Office, W. Va.



THE SPRING

## Hotel and Cottages

There are five splendidly furnished cottages at the Springs. A four-story, sixty-five-room modern hotel, with wide double porches on two sides, just completed a few years ago. This hotel is fitted up with all modern conveniences. Stationary wash basins with hot and cold water in each room. Baths and toilets on each floor. Lighted with acetylene gas.

The bedrooms are all furnished with beds, spring mattresses of the best quality, are light, airy, clean and sanitary.

Laundry done in good condition for guests at Hotel Laundry when desired.

## The Table

The table will be provided with fresh garden vegetables and fruits in their season, obtained from near-by farms and hotel farm and garden. Will also have fresh country eggs, sweet milk, cream, buttermilk, butter and meats, furnished from hotel farm. For the invalids who require light diet, cereals, fresh sweet milk, etc., will be furnished—the management realizing that in any treatment a great deal depends upon proper dieting. The water gives to those drinking it a ravenous appetite, and persons whose stomachs refuse to digest solids and heavy foods, find after using this water, as they express it, "*We can eat anything.*"

As varied a menu as possible will be furnished, and all that good cooking and dainty serving can do, to help along the good effects of the water, will be done, it being the desire of the management to do all in every department to make it pleasant for the guests, and above all, that those seeking health from the use of the water may have every additional aid in their power to give.

## Nearest Towns

Athens, with a population of about 1,000, is situated on the Princeton and Hinton road, about two and one-half miles from the Springs. This is a neat little town, and admired by all. It has seven general stores, one drug store, one bank, three churches, and is the seat of one of the State Normal Schools. This school is second best of its class in the State.

Princeton, four and one-half miles from the Springs, is the county seat of Mercer County. Situated on the Virginian Railway, it is a thriving and growing city destined to be one of the largest cities in this section of the State. If any one should need a physician, one can be had from Athens in twenty minutes on call by 'phone. Long distance 'phone in Hotel.

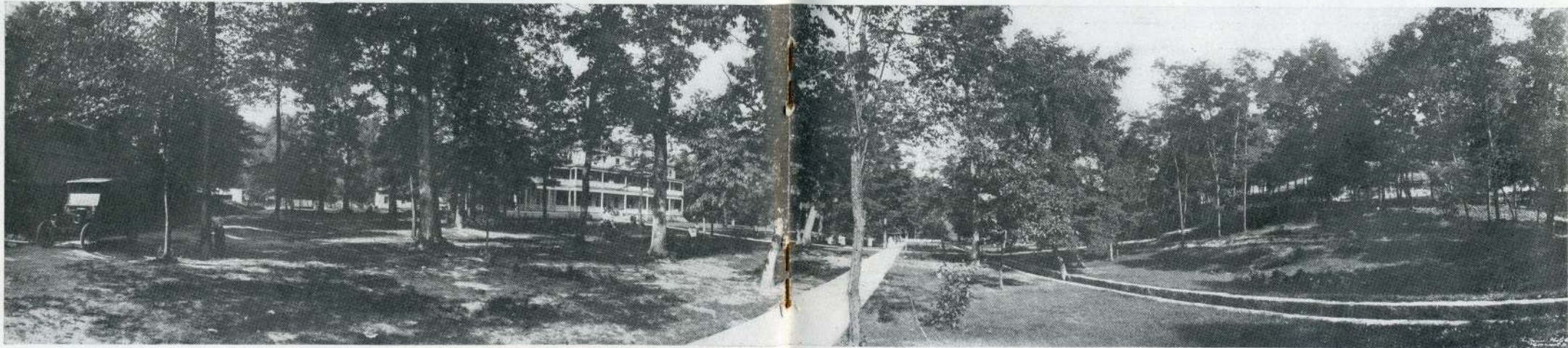
Post office "*Mercer Healing Springs*" will be opened in Hotel after June 22d.



## How to Get to the Springs

There will be regular hacks and automobiles to meet all trains at Princeton, the nearest railroad station, on the Virginian Railway. Charges will not exceed fifty cents each way for each person, and fifty cents for trunks, provided you be careful to engage regular conveyances making regular trips to the Springs.

Parties desiring to come through the country from Bluefield—sixteen miles—can do so by taking either the regular daily hack or automobile from Bluefield to Princeton, and change at Princeton to daily hack or automobile from Princeton to “The Springs”; or, better still, if they will in advance write to or call up Mercer Healing Springs Hotel by long distance 'phone, we will send hack or automobile direct from Springs to Bluefield; by doing so we will see that charges are reasonable. The fare from Bluefield to Springs will be not over \$1.50 each, when two or more are in party. Always before taking conveyance from either Princeton or Bluefield to the Springs, make contract as



VIEW OF HOTEL AND GROUNDS

to prices so that outside conveyances will not overcharge. Sometimes lower rates of conveyance can be had. Always advise Hotel in advance of your coming what day to expect you.

Summer tourists' tickets can be obtained from the agent of the Virginian Railway, thus giving low rates to the Springs, from Huntington, Charleston and intermediate points. Also from Norfolk, Roanoke and intermediate points.



## Amusements

It has been the purpose of the Company to provide such amusements as are usually indulged in at other resorts. A splendid billiard room has already been constructed. Croquet and lawn tennis have been provided. The dance hall is fine.

## Improvements Made Since the Hotel Was Closed

A bath house has been constructed, where guests can take hot or cold baths in the mineral water direct from the spring. The lawn tennis court and croquet grounds have been put in good shape. A double bowling alley has just been installed in the new building erected for that purpose.

The woods abound in small game, and the Nimrods can get some good sport. The pedestrian and equestrian lovers both will find the shady paths and roads through wood and field "a joy forever," because they are "things of beauty"; especially to those who are unaccustomed to mountain scenery. To those city dwellers and lowlanders this resort should especially appeal. Local and long distance telephone connection in hotel. The management will take particular pains to make it pleasant for all who come.



### Rates Per Week in Hotel and Cottages

On fourth floor	{	Two or more in a room (Adults) . . . . .	\$ 9.00	each
		One in a room (Adult) . . . . .	11.00	each
On second and third floors	{	Two in a room (Adults) . . . . .	12.50	each
		One in a room (Adult) . . . . .	14.50	each
		Corner rooms \$1.00 extra for each guest.		
In Cottages:	{	Two in a room (Adults) . . . . .	10.50	each
		One in a room (Adult) . . . . .	12.50	each

Rates for less than a week \$2.00 to \$2.50 per day.

For Children who take a plate in the dining room one-half the rate of (one in a room) Adult up to six years; two-thirds the rate of (one in a room) Adult from six to twelve years. Special rates for the month of September.

Nurses two-thirds of Adult rate.

R. G. MEADOR, *Proprietor.*



DINING ROOM



## Testimonials

R. G. Meador, Esq., 121 3d Ave., N.,  
St. Petersburg, Fla.

December 16, 1913.

MY DEAR SIR:

My wife and I had a very pleasant two weeks' stay at your springs near Athens, West Virginia, last August, and I beg to assure you that both of us were greatly improved by the use of the water, both for drinking and bathing purposes. I am familiar with most all of our Virginia and West Virginia mineral springs, and I say to you candidly, I believe yours is the best of the lot. The water is excellent for the stomach, liver and bowels, and I know it will cure any sort of a skin ailment however aggravated it may be. The hotel is new, convenient and modern in all its appportionments, and the table will compare favorably with any of the good hotels with which I am acquainted. It is, therefore, an excellent place for one to go who is weakened in health and who desires "to be himself again."

Yours very truly,

G. W. ATKINSON.

## TESTIMONIALS

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NORFOLK, VA., October 31, 1913.

*R. G. Meador, Esq., Athens, W. Va.*

MY DEAR SIR:

Answering your valued favor of 28th inst., my interest has never abated in the waters of the Mercer Healing Springs, and that I could have conveyed a contrary impression to you is past my understanding.

For fifteen or twenty years have suffered with rheumatic gout, having several attacks during the winter and spring months, except this year, when it did not leave me until expelled by the waters of the Mercer Healing Springs last September; when I went to the Springs the joints of my feet and the tendons of the heels were inflamed and sore. The joints of my feet, hands and arms would "crack" when subjected to slight pressure. All this has disappeared.

Went on an automobile trip two weeks ago and contracted a severe cold, requiring my doctor's attention. A few days ago he observed that the effect of the Mercer Healing water in my case was marvelous. I answered that the high and dry atmosphere may have had much to do in this. He said it no doubt contributed, but it was the water that had driven out the poison from my blood and which was the occasion of the rheumatism which had worked such injury.

## TESTIMONIALS

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I believe this was the cause of the severe heart attack last spring, when the doctor found my blood pressure to be 224. This got down to about 165 when I went to your Springs, but uneasiness about the heart seemed to be generally present and which, however, disappeared after drinking the water about three weeks. After getting home, the doctor found my blood pressure to be 145, remarking this was as low as could be expected for one of my years—sixty-nine.

If you think the water will keep well, thank you to send me four to six bottles and render me bill. Insert freight rate in bill of lading.

Note you expect to leave about November 10th. Could you arrange with Mr. Bird or some one to make shipments to me during your absence? So many are afflicted like I have been that I feel an interest to have the water placed within the reach of all, and will do what I can to make its merits known.

With kind regards from Mrs. White to Mrs. Meador and to yourself, and in which permit me to join, I beg to remain,

Very truly and sincerely,

(Signed) LEWIS B. WHITE.

Name of my doctor is Stanley M. Graves. He remarked during the talk herein mentioned: "You

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## TESTIMONIALS

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have been laboring under a severe cold for two weeks, and most people would have suffered in vitality, but you have improved, which shows the good condition your visit to the Springs put you in."



PRINCETON, W. VA., January 11, 1913.

*Hon. R. G. Meador, St. Petersburg, Fla.*

MY DEAR SIR:

In reply to your letter in regard to the medicinal qualities of the water of the Mercer Healing Springs, it gives me great pleasure to respond, and I am only afraid that I will not prove an unprejudiced witness, as I really am of the opinion that you yourself do not fully realize what you have in these waters.

I have made somewhat a careful study of the leading mineral springs of the country, and I find that Nature in her wonderful laboratory has made some combination of elements in the Mercer Healing Springs which are not found in any other springs within my knowledge, and in so far as my observation extends, there is one special quality about these waters which places them in a class alone and that is an iron or chalybeate spring that is also laxative in its properties. As every one knows, iron is *constipating*,

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## TESTIMONIALS

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but here you have a sufficient quantity of the salts of magnesia to overcome the constipating effects of the iron and make a strongly laxative, and with some, cathartic water, and then the powerful *diuretic* and *alterative* action, together with the water being heavily charged with carbonic acid gas, making it a so-called light water, gives a combination of elements which makes the Mercer Healing Springs the peer of all springs where one needs a *tonic* and *alterative* result, together with the eliminative action which is produced upon the kidneys and bowels by the elements which are contained in the water.

There is one thing certain—if you will furnish enough at the hotel in the way of good, solid, substantial edibles, every one who stays any length of time at the Mercer Healing Springs will not fail to increase in weight, for my party while there averaged nearly a pound a day increase, and I am sure we were all wonderfully improved. As you remember, my family went down to stay six days and remained fifteen days, which of itself is self-explanatory.

I am glad you have gotten the different amusements fixed for the guests. There is nothing lacking in the water which would add to the "road to Wellville," and the bowling alley, tennis court, etc., will furnish amusements, so the time will pass pleasantly.

I remain, yours truly,

(Signed) ZED E. BEE, M. D.

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## TESTIMONIALS

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PRINCETON, W. VA., December 4, 1912.

*R. G. Meador, Esq., Athens, W. Va.*

DEAR SIR:

I have promised myself for some time to write you a letter, but have delayed until the present time. Since I was at your Springs last summer I have enjoyed fairly good health. You know I have been suffering from a disease called Eczema for a number of years, and confined to my room for perhaps six weeks in the early part of this year. After going to Mercer Healing Springs I found myself very much improved. I have attended both the Mercer Healing Springs and the Craig Healing Springs, and for my trouble I feel justified in saying that I find more virtue in your springs than in the Craig springs. This may not be true in all cases, but it is in mine.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) C. W. BUTLER.



## TESTIMONIALS

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ATHENS, W. VA., April 15, 1912.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that I, A. W. Martin, suffered with an ulcerated leg of two years' duration. I was treated by two physicians without any relief. The pain was so severe that I could not sleep at night, and my leg was a running sore from my knee to my ankle. Finally one of my doctors advised me to go to the Craig Healing Springs. Before deciding to do so I decided to give the Mercer Healing Springs a trial. The result was, that after using this water for three weeks my leg had peeled off perfectly smooth, and a young skin had formed. In four weeks my leg was *sound and well*. It has now been fifteen months, and no sign of a return of the trouble. I believe the Mercer Spring will do anything that the Craig Springs will do.

I will answer all letters or inquiries personally.

(Signed) A. W. MARTIN.

## TESTIMONIALS

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### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I hereby certify that on the fifth day of May, 1896, I was stricken down with a severe case of milk leg. I had the disease in both sides in a very malignant form.

The skill of our best physicians was sorely taxed to save my life. The disease settled in my ankles and broke, forming black indolent ulcers, which baffled the skill of all our physicians. The ulcers were so stubborn that they would not yield to medical treatment, even after one doctor burned the sores out—burned them almost to the bone.

In the summer of 1908 I began to use the water from the Mercer Healing Springs, by having the water carried to me. By a short course of the use of the water I was greatly benefited. In the summer of 1909 I again took a six weeks' treatment, by again having the water carried to me, which again very greatly improved my general health; all my improvements seemed to be permanent. When I commenced the use of this water I had reached a condition in which I could scarcely walk, so I decided that I would give the water a fair show, to see what it would do for me, and in the month of July, 1910, in the early part of the month, I went to the Springs, and again began its use. I drank the water freely and bathed

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## TESTIMONIALS

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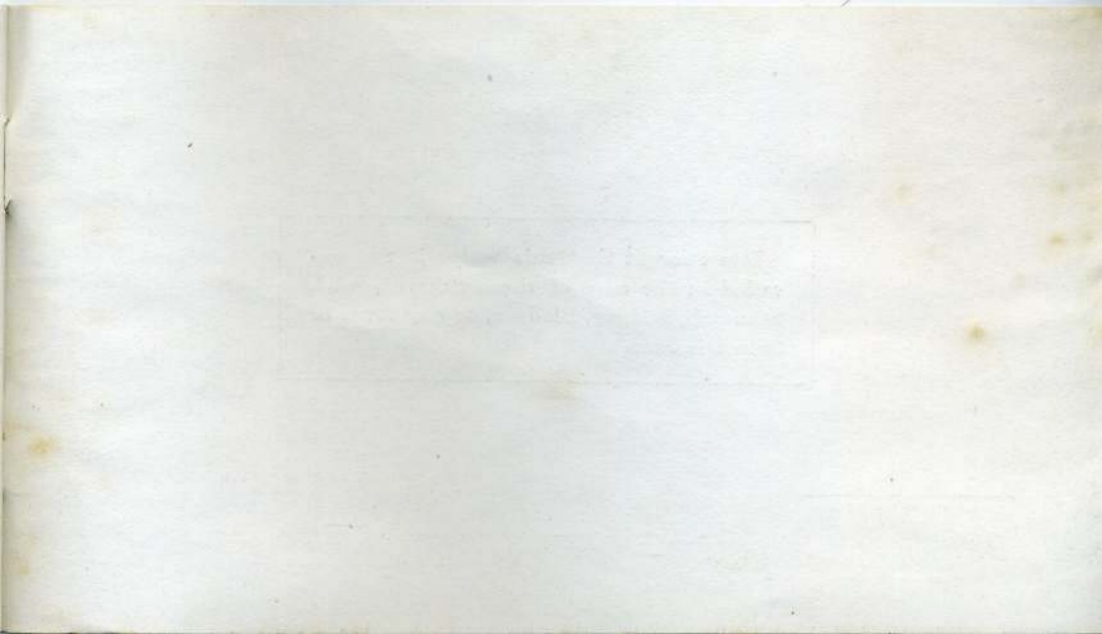
the ulcers with water. It acted like magic in my case; I rapidly improved, and on the fourth day of September I came away from the Springs, the ulcers were entirely healed up, and I could walk very well. Now, after thirteen years of suffering and doctoring, I can truthfully say that I am again in fairly good health, and no further trouble from those ulcers. *The cure was effected by the use of the water alone,* no other treatment of any kind was used while I was using the water. I can conscientiously recommend this water to all who are similarly affected. I will answer any and all inquiries by mail, if the interested parties will enclose self-addressed and stamped envelope.

Respectfully,

(MRS.) T. K. MASSIE,

Box 4, Hatcher, W. Va.

November 28, 1910.



**Don't forget that this water is not ex-  
celled in the cure of those suffering with  
Stomach, Kidney, Bladder, or any form of  
Skin Diseases.**