

babe are still improving.

Aunt Jennie is very tired of Lutherville. Do not know whether she will be home at Christmas or not.

Aunt Lou has not gotten down yet she wants to be here by Tom. I hope she will. Do not know whether Cousin Blanche has gotten home or not.

Aunt Lizzie wrote that she had seen Uncle Dimeltzer's death through the papers. If none of you have not written to her I think you ought she will think hard of it.

Christmas is drawing very near and every one is busy preparing for it. I know it will be sad to you all, but try and think of what we celebrate at that

time and be glad for his
sake.

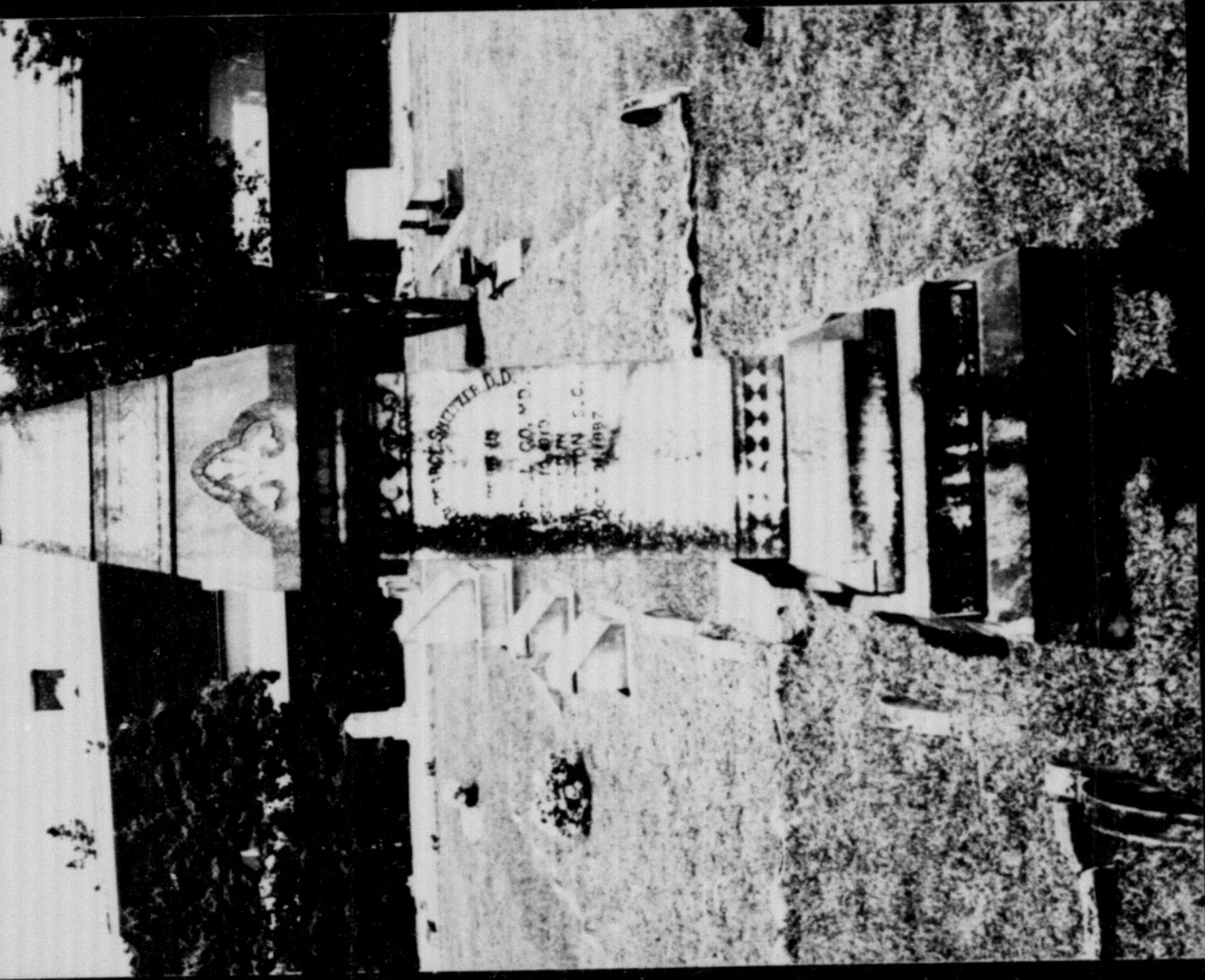
Jennie how ~~is~~ you
would be with me, I would
be so glad to have you.
You must not give up the
idea of coming to see me
and your other relatives
in Virginia. Come we
will be glad to see you
at any time.

Love to all of you.

Wishing you a merry
Christmas and a happy
New Year. I am your

-loving Cousin

Katie Eichelberger.



5. Smeltzer Family Plot

St. John's Lutheran Church, Wellsville

V. Deaths of Josiah P. and Anna E. Smeltzer

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1. October 23, 1885 from the *Lutheran Observer*
Obituary Announcement for Anna E. Smeltzer, died October 10, 1885
2. October 31, 1887
Obituary for Josiah P. Smeltzer (*Not included in the Smeltzer/Smelko Papers*)
3. November 5, 1887
Memorial from the Board of Trustees of the Seminary (S.S. Rahn, Chair)
issued after the death of Josiah P. Smeltzer
4. November and December 1887
Sympathy letters to Smeltzer Family on the death of Josiah P. Smeltzer
Smeltzer Family Plot
5. St. John's Lutheran Church, Walhalla
(*Photograph taken May 2004*)

SMELTZER.
10th, 1885, Mrs. Anna Eliza Smeltzer, wife

of Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, D. D.

She was born in Frederick county, Md., September 2d, 1829, and at an early period in life confirmed her baptismal vows in the Lutheran church of Creagerstown, Md., Rev. J. J. Reimersnyder, pastor at the time. June 17th, 1851, she was married to her now bereaved consort. Over a year ago bronchitis, followed by dropsy, caused her great suffering; the paroxysms of distress in short breathing were terrible, and yet she was patient. She often expressed a desire to live to see her children become members of the church and educated, which wish was realized, except the education of the youngest son. She left the world, peaceful and calm, like the setting of an autumnal eve, having been a faithful member of the church of her fathers. She was not afraid of death, for she often spoke of her departure to her family and her many friends. The poor will miss her. In conclusion we add extracts from the obituary notice of the Keowee Courier:

"Mrs. Smeltzer was matron of the Waltham Female College, and, when in health, labored assiduously with her excellent husband to build up and prosper the institution. Her Christian character and motherly virtues drew students from abroad and added greatly to the patronage of the college. Her death is not only a sad affliction to her husband and family, but a loss to the college and community, for no one knew her but esteemed her. Her remains were followed by a long train of friends to the Lutheran churchyard, where, after funeral services by Rev. J. C. Brodfehrer, they were consigned to their last earthly resting-place on Tuesday, the 13th inst. Her death, though a cause of grief to family and friends left behind, must have been to her a transition from earthly pain and suffering to heavenly joy and rest. Her venerable husband and her children have, in their sad bereavement, the sympathy of the entire community, but this, freely given and really felt, is as nothing compared with the consolation that she lives in a brighter and better world, where in a short time, they will again meet in an eternal union."

Three of her favorite hymns were sung at the funeral, viz., "Jesus, lover of my soul," "Oh, where shall rest be found," "I would not live away, I ask not to stay." The funeral text was Job vii. 16: "I would not live away."

PASTOR.

Obituary of Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, D. D.-Dr. Smeltzer was born in Frederick County, Maryland, September 10 1819. He received a liberal education, and about the time he reached manhood was ordained a minister of the Lutheran Church. He was for several years principal of a well-known and popular educational institution at Harper's Ferry, Virginia, and was at different times pastor of the churches at Shepherdstown, West Virginia, and Salem, Virginia. In 1861, so great had become his reputation as an instructor, that he was elected president of Newberry College, South Carolina. He removed to South Carolina, and conducted the affairs of this institution with signal ability when the college was located at Newberry, and after its removal to Walhalla until 1879, when the college was again taken back to Newberry. In that year he resigned the presidency of the institution, and established at his mountain home the Walhalla Female College, of which he was the head until 1885

During his labors as a teacher, Dr. Smeltzer did not discontinue his work in the pulpit. Last spring, his health having given way under the ceaseless toil of many years, Dr. Smeltzer came to Charleston, where he spent the last few months of his life. Dr. Smeltzer was a very forcible preacher, He was possessed of profound powers of analysis, and preached with great effectiveness. For his theological learning the degree of doctor of divinity was conferred upon him by Erskine College.

He was one of the oldest as well as one of the ablest and most impressive preachers of his age.

Soon after the death of his wife, he resigned his position in Walhalla Female Seminary, South Carolina, and having received a call, he took charge of the Springhill, South Carolina, charge, and this charge being in connection with the Evangelical Lutheran Tennessee Synod, he received an honorable discharge from the Evangelical Lutheran South Carolina Synod, and was received into the said Tennessee Synod, October, 1886.

He died at the residence of his son, Mr. John B. Smeltzer of Charleston, South Carolina, October 31, 1887; aged 68 years, 1 month and 21 days. His funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Muller and Rev. Dr. Horn. His remains were conveyed to Walhalla, and interred.

2. October 31, 1887

Obituary for Josiah P. Smeltzer *(Not included in the Smeltzer/Smelko Papers)*

As Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary it becomes my duty to communicate to you the following:

Resolved, - That in the death of Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, D.D. this Board has lost a valuable & faithful member. The untiring services he so long rendered are duly appreciated by us. He had learned by actual experience that the success of our church in the state depended on the good & thorough work of this school of the prophets. Being for a number of years a most efficient instructor in it himself, he felt the deepest interest in its welfare. Hence there ever came forth from his fertile brain & consecrated heart wise & safe counsel, - nay, that which was inspiring. Not only was Dr. Smeltzer a man of

3. November 5, 1887

Memorial from the Board of Trustees of the Seminary (S.S. Rahn, Chair)

issued after the death of Josiah P. Smeltzer

sound & extensive learning in literature, ~~sciences~~ science, & theology, but also he was a man of rare administrative ability. While we, therefore, shall sadly miss him in our deliberating & planning for the future prosperity of the institution, we, still, humbly bow to the will of Him who doeth all things well. He rests from his labors & his works follow him.

Resolved, - That this action be inscribed on a blank page of the minutes & a copy forwarded to the family of Dr. Smetzer.

The above was adopted at a meeting of the Board held Nov. 5, 1887.

A. A. Rahn.

Wm. W. W.

Wahalla, S.W.

Nov. 2nd 1887.

My Dear Friend,

What can I say to comfort and let you know how much I feel for you in your great affliction? - nothing - dear, giving - but offer my loving sympathies.

It seems hard for you to have to bear the death of both your dear parents - so near to death, - but God knows best, and you dear should be reconciled in the

consolation of knowing
they are in a better world.
During the ceremony in
church, I looked around
at the many girls there,
and thought, they all,
with the exception of a few;
some of them gram were
now; had recited to your
Father, and you dear know
how much we respected
and loved him.

The church was decorated
beautifully by Mrs Skline,
while they were sitting
up Tuesday night.
Need I tell you dear of
the tears that were shed
and how sad we all felt.

Our hearts went out to
your brother, John, all
along in his great trials,
although among friends
who shared in part his
grief. Ma, Pa, and Kate
(Lainie also, who is at home)
join me in love to you
and dear Katie, you
don't know how much we
feel for you all.

My heart is so full and
my thoughts so sad, I can't
write; except your own
and Katie our love and
sympathy. Believe me
always, dear, Jennie

Your loving friend
Carrie Perry.

Prosperity, A.C.,
Nov. 7, 1887.

Mr. John Smeltzer, brother & sisters,

My dear young Friends, Please

allow me to extend to you all my sincerest sorrow & sympathy in your present sore bereavement in the death of your dear good father. I truly feel with you the great loss you have sustained in this affliction, as my beloved & revered preceptor Dr. Smeltzer, was not only a kind & loving father to you, but indeed such to me, when a student. It is therefore needless to say I shall ever hold him in cherished remembrance. I am sure, too, that all his pupils have the tenderest regard for his memory. We used to say to me that he was proud of his boys in the ministry whom he encouraged and

helped, & I am glad that I had the opportunity of so safe, wise, & noble an instructor. Truly he was one of the Lord's most faithful & consecrated servants, & our own church mourns his irreparable loss.

But he has left us only to enter upon the rewards of the better life, earlier than we, then why grieve immoderately? There "sickness & sorrow, pain & death,"

Are felt & feared no more.

That the grace of that Gospel which he so long, faithfully & eloquently preached may comfort your sad & bleeding hearts is the sincere wish of

Your friend in sympathy,
S. S. Rahu.

I can never forget - Ginnie's
an act of kindness which he
did for her & Ginnie just one
year ago - when we were first
stricken down with grief as
you are now. But - you know
that - he has done with earth-
trial and is looking into
heaven and you must - say an
Amen - in answer to his Holy
will. Mother & Althea join
me in deep sympathy for your
loss.

May Heaven richest blessings
be all upon you and the good of
all, comes taking they join in
the prayer of Sam. Merrill
W. P. McClain

Gadhulla S.C.

Ag 8th 1983

Mrs. Kati & Jinni Smethen

Dear Friends,

I was

with deep regret that I learned
of your father's death and wish
I were on my knees to day
Even more to offer comfort for in
your hour of trial but God alone
can soothe the sorrow-stricken
heart. And I pray that He may
comfort you.

Remembering your father
lives a life he has only gone
to his rich inheritance and
thus you may go to your home

George Station

Nov. 8th 1887

Dear Kati and Jennie.

My heart is so

full of you in your sad bereavement -
The fact with all its sunshine and
shadow comes looms before me. I
can't ^{see} your dear horse circle unbroken
but that I love Johnnie less for hav-
ing grown to manhood with all
the care of life upon his shoulders,
but I often think of him, as a
bright-faced school boy. How glad
I am that he brought gladness
instead of sorrow to the hearts of his
father and mother. Miss Minnie
loves all of you very dearly.

You must watch over our little
Willie, for his sake turn from your
deep grief. Some girls meet the brook-
ere of others with temptations.
How to my poor Ella, send me a
line regarding her. I am indeed
anxious. I know all that ten-
der affection can will be bestowed
upon her, but at best it is a try-
ing ordeal. Mother and I both
feel a sincere friendship for Mr.
Muller on account of his devotion
to Ella. Hope both of you girls will
be blest with such husbands, but
don't hurry. Johnnie and Willie
cannot spare you yet. Be true a
pair of bright-eyes made "Buddie's"
heart-captive?

Now shall I tell you something
about myself? As Miss Jennie
used to say, my bit is spent with

the "jubilate" (Joveriles) You

know Jess. I have some of your sayings when a smile of a girl treasured in the store house of memory. I unlock the door often times and bring them out as rays of sunshine. I don't grow old one bit. The years come and go. I meet boys and girls, who have crossed the threshold of manhood and womanhood, they can say I went to school to Miss Minnie - and yet in one sense I'm as young as they. My heart is full of that "Pass which passeth all understanding." I have learned to commit - and submit - to Him who chaalengeeth in love. Therefore I do not change with time. I hope in a few weeks to go to Mother, she counsels the days that pass to bring me together. How sweet -

The thought - when the pains and
disappointments of life are ended we
will gather with our loved ones in
that home where there is no separa-
tion. Do you play much? Tell me
some of your favorite pieces. I have
just ordered "Raise me Deane to thy brow"
I think it pathetic. My organs have
been a world of comfort to me -
Cousin (Sara Simmons) says it will
be a sad, sad day to her when I leave
for Georgia, but my first duty and
deepest affection is due my mother.
Write soon my dears. I have not
time to write each separately today
and you know I cannot show
partiality.

Love to all. Kiss the children, "sister
Ella" and each other and believe
me ever yours

Loving and sympathizing friend
Winnie R. Lee

Columbia S.C. Dec. 2nd 1870

Dear Friend.

I have been quite sick with chonchōm vehicle prevented me from replying earlier. I was kind in your home that my simple little tribute throws a ray of comfort into your saddened home.

I board your dear parents as well, and it's such a pleasure to me to think they had the happy assurance that you would all be enabled to look to Him, who never fails to lend the aid to "pass under the rod."

Give my love to your Sister - I know she must remember me.

Excuse my writing as my
wrist is so very weak, I write
with much pain.

Remember me in your
prayers, that I may exercise
great patience in all my
suffering.

Very kindly yours
Kate G. Peck.

Willa Jeff. Co. W. Va.

December 1883

Dear Jennie:

Your letter received. I was glad to hear from you.

I know that you are sad, but no one knows what a loss it is to lose both Father and Mother except those that have lost them both. We must be thankful that there is no little ones left behind that need a Father's or Mother's care.

We often think that God deals unjustly with us, but his ways are always the best. If we could always see from our heart be able to

"41

would not be so hard for us
to bear the affliction that he
sends upon us in various forms.

I am sad and also feel
lonely, yesterday I received
this news that my cousin,

the only young girl cousin
I have in Jeff. Co. we are near
one age, ran of to get married
It was no surprise we have
been expecting it for some
time, but I still hoped they
would not: she is so young
only 18. Her father was very
much opposed to the man
she married. I don't think
much of the family but he
is a good industrious young
man. Well if they are mar-
ried I can only wish them
success.

Shelby County, S. Va. and the