

is putting on fat with remarkable rapidity now that she is warmed. She is very fond of beer and drinks it like a toper. Bonnie thinks she is getting fatter and more like Catharine every day. Allow me to express to you my hearty congratulations and to extend to you the good wishes of us all on your 79th birthday to-morrow. We are all sorry that we could not accept your kind invitation to your birthday dinner to-day, which will no doubt be a great success. I am so glad that at your advanced age you are still in good health physically and mentally and are capable of enjoying life to the full. This is a great blessing from God for which you and all of us cannot be too thankful. May the Lord preserve you and keep you to us in the same way for you to come. This week's Progress-Enterprise of Lumburg, N.C. brought news of the death of William Silver of Sanford, whom I knew very well though he belonged to the Congregationalist Church then. He was 98 years of age and left 15 surviving children and I predicted, making 17 in all. Some called him the Father of his Country, though not quite accurately as there were others down there with families quite as large. Well, winter has set in at last. The past week was quite steady and the little snow that fell last Saturday or Sunday is still with us. I thought it was time for me to put off my BVD's and put on my combinations. This morning, I also bought a new overcoat last week and am now fitted out for whatever the winter chooses to bring.