

LOCAL PENCILINGS.

Mr. J. W. Throm came in from South Boston, Va., Wednesday night, Dec. 5th, for the Christmas holidays.

Miss Pauline Bramlett accompanied her sister, Mrs. Gault, on her return to her home in Washington, where she will remain for the present.

Mrs. J. P. Derham, of Powellville, S. C., spent Thanksgiving with her sister, Mrs. W. F. Marshall. Mrs. Derham worshipped with us Sunday, Dec. 2nd.

Mrs. R. C. Latta, of Monroe, while visiting her daughter, Mrs. Garrison, worshipped with us Dec. 2nd and seemed delighted with our new surroundings.

Mrs. J. M. Fagan, after spending a month at the parsonage helping her brother with his little babe, returned to her home in Carthage Thursday morning, Dec. 6th.

Bro. J. D. Moore attended the Baptist State Convention, and the prayer-meeting hour last Wednesday night was used most profitably in hearing him tell of the great meeting.

Rev. B. M. Bridges has rented one of Bro. Groves' houses and will move in next week. We welcome this minister to our town. He will preach at Sandy Plains two Sundays and Long Creek one.

The hoped for appropriation for mission work in West Gastonia had to be declined. The State board had so many urgent calls from old points that Gastonia with other new ones had to be turned down.

The South Fork Union convenes at Bruington on Friday before the 5th Sunday. We trust it will be a good and helpful meeting. We understand that Bro. Moore, and perhaps others, will attend from Gastonia.

The following brethren attended the Baptist State Convention from the South Fork Association: Gastonia, J. D. Moore; Hickory, W. R. Gwaltney; Lincolnton, D. P. Bridges; Maiden, J. A. Hoyle; Newton, Ben L. Hoke; Olivet, J. H. Fry.

Miss Carrie O. Sams, of Gaffney, spent Thanksgiving with her friend, Mrs. L. L. Jenkins, and remained over Sunday and worshipped with us. Miss Carrie seemed delighted with our new church and Sunday School arrangements and expressed the desire to be one of our number again.

The holidays are upon us, and all our readers, we hope, will enjoy the legitimate pleasures of this festive season. To those whose duty it will be to do the Christmas shopping we urgently commend the firms who advertise in THE WORKER. Read what message they send in our columns, and, so far as you can, give them the benefit of your holiday trading.

No one could have left us whose absence could be more sorely felt than that of sister R. T. Harper. Sister Harper has been an integral part of our church life here since the organization of the church, and no church ever had a more faithful member or pastor a more helpful helper. We commend her to the Atlanta Baptists and trust that she may be happy in her church life in the Gate City.

Bro. W. F. Marshall has again entered journalism, having purchased the *Gazette* from Mr. W. M. Grier. He is too well known here as editor to need commendation at the hands of this scribe. THE WORKER wishes for him much success in his new, or rather old, field of labor. We regret to part with Mr. Grier. He has been uniformly kind and thoughtful and has been especially so in mentioning the work of our Baptist people of the town. He has given us a clean, high-toned paper and we wish for him success wherever he may cast his lot.

OUR DEAD.

MCLEAN—Minnie Lewis McLean, daughter of Bro. and Sister W. W. McLean, died Dec. 15, after a lingering illness of several weeks. She was born April 23, 1887, and was therefore nearly 14 years old. She was a bright and amiable child, a member of Miss Toms' class in the Gastonia Sunday School, and her death will be mourned by all her companions and schoolmates. The funeral was conducted at Union church, near Begonia, Sunday afternoon by Rev. M. McG. Shields, our pastor being at that moment at the funeral of his own child. The sorrowing parents and brothers and sisters have the sympathy of us all in their sore affliction. W. F. M.

WATSON—Mattie Thomas, daughter of our beloved pastor, Rev. W. F. Watson, was born June 12, 1898, and was called from earth to heaven Saturday night, Dec 15, at a quarter past nine o'clock, death resulting from a heart affection following a long siege of the grip. She was apparently recovering, and daily trips in the afternoon sunshine were planned, when she almost suddenly grew worse Saturday at noon, and before the hour of midnight tolled, the home of our pastor was again wrapped in the gloom of death. The hearts of his people sorrow with him. There is shadow here; but shadows here mean sunshine somewhere; it is up yonder—little Mattie and her mother know the place—and the Lamb is the light thereof. The funeral services were conducted at the Baptist church at 3:30 Sunday afternoon by Rev. G. H. Detwiler in the presence of a large concourse of the friends of the sorrowing from all the congregations of our town. In the cemetery, there on the sunny slope beside her mother, we laid the sweet little form to rest. Whatever this life may have had in store for her had she lived, whether good or ill, we now know this, that "it is well with the child." W. F. M.

Editor Grier's Enterprise.

The *Gastonia Gazette* does itself proud in its issue of last week in giving its front page to illustrations of the beautiful new Baptist church there, and the prominent men who belong to it, and the visitors who took part in the dedicatory exercises. It shows real enterprise in a local newspaper to fully and faithfully record important movements in the community. Some papers would have given an inch or so in its locals to the church, and two or three columns to a football mangling game. Unfortunately not every editor knows what is important and what is worthless. —*Charity and Children.*

Last Cash Offering for the New Church.

Don't forget that the 5th Sunday in this month we will have our last cash offering for the new church for this year. If you are behind in what you subscribed, do your best to bring up the amount by that time as it will be greatly needed. If you have not subscribed anything, make a liberal contribution on that day. Let's make it a great day and rejoice in the work of the year.

There will be an important conference of the Gastonia church next Sunday afternoon to round up the years business. Let all the members come.

Bro. W. F. Watson, pastor of the Gastonia Baptist Church, recently dedicated a new and noble house of worship, costing \$8,000. The cornerstone was laid July 4, 1900. It was occupied Sunday Nov. 18th, 1900. Just like these Gastonia Baptists.—*Blue Ridge Baptist.*

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M. MCG. SHIELDS, Pastor Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, N. C.

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J. D. MOORE, Chairman Board of Deacons, Baptist Church, Gastonia, N. C.

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