

OUR CHURCHES.

St. Michael's (P. E.) church, Mint St. Services at 11 A. M., and 8 P. M. Sunday School at 4 P. M. Rev. P. P. ALSTON, Pastor.

Local Matters.

Our subscribers will please look out for us. We are likely to be down the Wilmington road any day. Be ready for us. City subscribers please be ready for us also.

If any one tires reading the MESSENGER, we hope they will pay up before stopping the paper. We have no apology to offer that we know of.

The speaking by Rowland and Jones on the public square last Tuesday night was the driest affair ever witnessed here on such occasion. But an ordinary crowd out, and it is said that Jones got the better of the discussion.

A panoramic exhibition has been going the rounds of our city this week. In fact this has been a very busy week. Cotton coming in at the rate of 300 bales a day, an opera troupe, a circus, &c.

Many, many of our patrons congratulate us upon last week's paper and say it was the "best of all." We thank our friends of this assurance of their endorsement. We knew we were about right.

Don't fail to read Col. W. R. Myers' card. He declines to be a candidate for the State Senate on the mongrel democratic ticket. Col. Myers is a good republican and does not care to injure his party and himself by allowing his name used on such a ticket.

Frost was reported here last Tuesday morning. It seems to be doing much damage in western counties as tobacco raisers have not yet cured their crops.

The republicans of the 2d Congressional district are still divided, one faction fighting for Mr. O'Hara the other for Mr. Abbott, while the democrats will support Mr. Simmons. It cannot be said who will be elected.

On and after next Monday the train on the west end of the Carolina Central road will leave this city at 7.35 o'clock a. m., and go to Ellenboro, thirteen miles beyond Shelby, arriving at this city 5.25 p. m. on return.

The judges appointed last Monday by the county commissioners for the approaching election for Charlotte township are as follows: Ward 1—Thomas Grier, F. W. Ahrens, W. R. Taliferro, C. A. Frazier. Ward 2—W. M. Wilson, C. F. Brem, R. E. McDonald, W. R. Hinton. Ward 3—J. C. Burroughs, W. W. Ward, J. M. Goode, H. Baumgarten. Ward 4—D. W. Oates, R. Barringer, D. P. Hutchison, W. H. Miller.

Rev. A. A. Powell informed us this week of a family living near the city which we think is the oldest in the county. The mother is 110 years, daughter 86, son 78, and his wife 75. The mother has been blind several years but enjoys good health. The other members of the family are healthy and as spry seemingly as one in her teens. Mr. Ezekiel Erwin is the gentleman's name. They are all members of the First Baptist Church of this city.

Elder Powell is making substantial improvements on his church. He has erected a tower to the front of the church, the base of which serves as a vestibule 8 ft. by 26 ft. long. The bell house proper is 8x8 feet. The entire height of the tower is 100 feet. His new bell is now in the tower and calls his members out at the proper time for service. The weight of the bell is 1000 lbs. The tower is covered with slate. The First Baptist is now second to no colored church in the city.

There will be a moonlight canvas entertainment given at Little Rock Church next Thursday and Friday nights, 14th and 15th. The entertainment is given for the benefit of the church, and it is hoped the friends and well wishers of the church will come out. A band of music will be there and refreshments cheap and plentiful. Rev. Mr. Johnson is doing a good work in this church. Arrangements will be made for the accommodation of all in the church yard.

We take this method to return thanks to Miss Susie Black, of Yorkville, S. C., for a list of subscribers and the cash.

A southern company has the contract to build our street railroad. We are to have the cars running in six months.

The engine at the cotton compress exploded last Monday evening about six o'clock, and Mr. Moses Caldwell, the fireman, was scalded to death.

Clinton Chapel last Sunday night voted for the return of Elder Slade with only three dissenting votes.

The collection at Zion Church last Sunday week was for church expenses—\$116.27. The old church is not dead yet.

The circus is in town to-day, and as usual many strangers and strange things are on the streets.

A blue cross mark means your time is out and you will please renew. The paper must be paid for in advance.

We are having most excellent weather and lovely moonlight nights. We need a little rain now to lay the dust, then all will be happy.

A dozen years experience has taught us that the way to run a newspaper is to hew to the line and let the chips fall as they may. If any one is hurt badly they will certainly yell.

Mr. Frank M. Martin passed through this city last Saturday for Winston, where he expects to teach this winter.

Miss Lucy Bragg, of Petersburg, Va., arrived in the city last Monday, and is expected to teach the Episcopal parochial school which opens next Monday at St. Michael's.

Some men at times do things so little that they sink into insignificance, but then, nature has so arranged that water seeks its level.

We acknowledge receipt of complimentary ticket to the Virginia State Fair to be held in Richmond Oct. 20-22.

Col. G. T. Wasson will please accept our thanks for a complimentary ticket to the Industrial Fair to be held in Raleigh Nov. 8-13. We are coming with all our neighbors.

An election was held in Georgia on Wednesday for Governor and members of the Legislature.

A letter from Rev. A. F. Goslen a few days ago has been misplaced. In it he tells of the success of his churches. Within a few weeks time he has added 115 members to his Wadesboro church, and it is in fine spiritual and financial condition. He has a small mission near town, and has recently added over 30 members to it.

Rev. G. L. Blackwell, of Lincoln, has returned from the Kentucky Conference, where he attended as fraternal delegate from the North Carolina Central Conference. Blackwell is an able young man and bids fair to make his way to the top round. He sends us a lengthy poem written by himself on his 25th birthday day and dedicated to his mother. The poem is a good one.

We propose early in the future to say something about the general condition of our people and our idea of certain classes and certain sections being in the advance or behind others. Our columns are open and if any one chooses to take a hand in the fray let him prepare.

The special delivery system was introduced the 1st of October, 1885. Up to the first of the present month there were delivered from this office 237 special delivery letters. The special delivery letters must have the special ten cent stamp in addition to the regular postage, and is required to be delivered immediately if the party is in the city.

Is It Right?

We make no pretensions to know the law, but ask is it right for a police officer to arrest a man and lock him up in the station house without a hearing before any one? It seems that a person might be taken before the mayor, chief, or some one, and allowed chance for bail, the same as before going to jail. It may be exposure of ignorance, but in large cities one is taken before an officer before locked up.

They Come Down.

Col. Myers refuses to run for the Senate on the McNinch-Sims-Gordon-democratic ticket, and Mr. Batt Harry refuses to run for treasurer. The way of the transgressor is hard. The Ballot speaks of the ticket in this way:

The Independent-Democratic-Whiskey-Ring-Double-Retified-Personal-Liberty-to-get-drunk-when-you-please party has, after great labor, brought forth the following sickly child.

There are 12,000 saloons in New York City, and 4,000 in Jersey City, Newark and Paterson, making 16,000 saloons in sight of Trinity spire.

A Colored Paper.

Do we need a paper here? Must it be honest, plain, free, and manly?

Must it express the opinions of its editor or be a slave? The pulpit and the press are the powers of the world to mould public sentiment. Let the intellect and the morals govern these mighty powers and ride rough-shod over demagogues who would impede their progress. Then on. Lay on McDuff.

Col. Myers Declines.

MR. EDITOR: I have noticed, through the city papers, that I have been nominated by a convention at Gaither's Hall, and subsequently ratified by a convention at the Court House, to a seat in the Senate. Not having received any official information of the same, I beg, through your paper, to decline the nomination. Thanking both conventions for the implied, compliment, &c., I am respectfully,

W. R. MYERS.

MR. EDITOR: We hear that Mr. W. R. Myers will not suffer his name to be run on the mongrel ticket commonly called independent ticket. If we republicans are to support this ticket in a body and not run one of our own, we would suggest that the committee composed of liberals independents and republicans put at least half the number of colored republicans. Then we will support it cordially, provided that some one or two of the candidates are colored republicans and provided furthermore that these independents pledge themselves publicly to support the whole ticket, negro and all. Until this is done we say away with the whole thing, it is a fraud and a sell.

REPUBLICAN.

News.

Hon. Robert Smalls has been re-nominated for Congress in the 7th S. C. district.

A colored lawyer is said to be among four persons convicted of perjury, in New Hanover county.

The Knights of Labor have nominated a candidate for Congress in the 6th Virginia district.

The Republicans of Nebraska in State convention passed a resolution demanding the next legislature to submit a constitutional prohibition amendment to the people.

The 3d Louisiana district republicans have nominated J. S. Davidson, a colored gentleman, for Congress.

The colored people of Mississippi will open their second annual fair at Jackson, Miss., on the 10th of November, and as they have made good crops in the valley, it is expected they will have a fine exhibition.

In the recent Senatorial contest in Atlanta, 3,290 votes were cast, Rice, the prohibition candidate, receiving 233 majority. He carried the city by 108 majority, and every precinct but one. This shows that prohibition is not yet dead in Atlanta.—Progressive Farmer.

An African princess is living in Hanover county, Va. She is fourteen years old, and lives in the family of an Episcopal clergyman who was a missionary to western Africa some years ago. She is soon to return to her native land to marry the king, and with her American education she is expected to prove a useful queen.

A Good Templar Rupture Settled.

BOSTON, MASS., Sept. 30.—In 1876 a rupture occurred between the American and English grand bodies of Good Templars, caused, as claimed by the English, by the question of the admission of colored people into the order. Since that time there have been two international courts, one mainly American and the other mainly English, each having branches. Overtures for the reunion of the two sections resulted in a conference in this city during the present week, between representatives of each section, at which the matter was fully discussed. It was decided that no applicant for membership could be rejected by a lodge on account of race or color, nor could lodges deny visitations on such accounts.

Several other matters were discussed and harmonious action was taken upon them all. It was resolved that the two Supreme Courts—the R. G. W. Lodges—should each hold its next session at Saratoga on the fourth Tuesday of May, 1887, the two bodies to meet separately to complete unfinished business and then meet unitedly and become one body.

Purple pond lilies from Japan are the floral glories of the hour. The Japanese lily does not attach itself to any object, but floats around in the water. The leaf springs from a little air bulb that sustains the plant on the surface and the roots find nourishment in the water.

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

Value of Wood Ashes.

In a bulletin recently issued, Dr. R. C. Kedzie, of Michigan, gives the manual value of ashes, as ordinarily found upon the farm, as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Ash type and Value per ton. Includes Leached, Soft wood, unbleached, Corn cob, Tannery, Soft coal, and Hard coal.

One hundred pounds of ash, says Dr. Kedzie, represents the mineral matter of eighty-five bushels of wheat, eighty-five bushels of corn, or one ton of timothy hay. Eleven tons of gooseberries, grapes, blackberries, peaches or apples would contain only one hundred pounds of ash. Several tons of cherries, plums or raspberries contain only one hundred pounds of mineral matter. But, small as is the amount of ash, it is still indispensable for the production of these crops, and must be present in the soil in available form before profitable cultivation is possible.

Ashes of mineral coal are nearly valueless for manure. The ashes of wood and of land plants of every kind are of value for manure on every kind of soil which has been reduced by cropping; but the greatest benefit is shown upon sandy and porous soils. On these light soils, crops of every kind, but especially root crops and corn, will be benefited by a dressing of wood ashes, also fruit trees and fruit-bearing plants.—Orchard and Garden.

Grape Vines from Cuttings.

No kind of wood will more easily grow from the eye than the grape vine. For this reason the rapid propagation of new varieties is a very easy matter. The nurseryman uses single-eye cuttings in green-houses, and this is a very good way wherever bottom heat can be furnished. But all this trouble and expense are not needed, provided the right course is taken and enough buds or eyes left on the cutting. Even nurserymen do not rely entirely on the single-eye method. It is only used, in fact, for new varieties when wood is scarce and it is desirable to increase the vines as fast as possible. Cuttings set in the open ground should be prepared early in the spring, leaving two or at most three eyes on a piece. The lower part must be cut off square at the bulge where a bud has formed. Then remove this lowest bud with a sharp knife so as to make a clean cut. Leave the top eye just at the surface of the soil, which must be packed around the lower part very closely. Plant in rows three feet apart, and run the cultivator through once a week to keep weeds down. Plant cuttings six to eight inches apart in the row, and keep down weeds with the hoe. If the season is fairly favorable four-fifths of these cuttings will make strong-rooted plants by July 1. There is no need of being discouraged about those that at this time show no signs of putting forth a shoot. Pull one up and you will find the bottom calloused and fine, white, thread-like roots from it. In such cases the shoot will usually start from the eye below the surface. Where the first eye starts and grows the one below it also grows. In the fall or next spring one of these sprouts must be cut off, and the other trimmed down to a single eye. By this method farmers and others can easily and cheaply supply themselves with as many grape vines as they wish, and of the best varieties. Four-fifths of all the grapevine growth of the previous season must be cut off this fall or next spring, and it can usually be had for nothing. A few very hard-wooded and close-jointed grape vines do not root easily. Eumelan and Delaware are samples of these; but it is only necessary to take a little longer cutting and plant at an angle of forty-five degrees in the ground. This will keep the bottom of the cutting within reach of the air and warmth. No manure is necessary; in fact, it is positively hurtful. Its heating forces the buds too rapidly, and may cause the bottom of the cutting to rot, instead of putting forth roots.—Cultivator.

Recipes.

APPLE PUDDING.—Pulp of two or three large baked apples, white of one egg, one cup powdered sugar. Beat the ingredients half an hour and serve with boiled custard poured over it. This is very nice.

SQUASH BISCUIT.—Two cups of sliced squash, one cup of yeast, two tablespoons each of sugar, butter and milk. Salt to taste. Knead with flour like bread and set to rise over night. Bake in a quick oven in biscuit for breakfast.

BAKED POTATOES.—Peel and slice very thin and then let stand in cold water half an hour, which hardens them; put them in a pudding dish, with salt, pepper and one-half pint of milk; bake for an hour, then add a piece of butter the size of an egg.

RAW TOMATOES.—Peel with a sharp blade, slice and season on the table with sugar, salt, pepper, oil and vinegar; sprinkle bits of ice between the layers when you dish it, draining off the water before seasoning. The colder raw tomatoes are the more delicious they will prove.

POTTED FISH.—Cut a fish twelve inches in length into four equal parts; rub a little salt on the end of each piece, and place the pieces in an earthen pot; add whole spices and cider vinegar to

cover the fish when the pot is nearly full. Tie on a paper cover and over this put an earthen cover to keep in all the steam. Bake in a moderate oven for three hours. Fish cooked in this way is delicious and will keep two weeks in a cool place and longer in a refrigerator.

Curiousities of the Number Seven.

The frequent recurrence of the number seven in the Bible seems, says the Cincinnati Inquirer, to indicate that there are associated with it certain events, that it may be termed the prophetic, representative symbolic number consecrated in the holy scriptures and the religion of the Jews and other nations, by many mysterious events and circumstances.

The old testament informs us that God completed the work of creation in seven days and set apart the seventh day to be a day of rest for all mankind.

The slayer of Abel was to be punished seven-fold and the slayer of Lamech seventy and seven-fold.

Of every clean beast Noah took into the ark by sevens and took with him seven souls when he entered the ark. After seven days the waters were upon the face of the earth. The intervals between sending out the dove the second and third times were seven days, and in the seventh month the ark rested on the mountains of Ararat.

In Pharaoh's two dreams he saw seven well-favored and fat kine and seven ill-favored and lean kine and seven ears of corn on one stalk, rank and good, and seven ears blasted by the east wind, which was followed with seven years of great plenty and seven years of famine.

The children of Israel were commanded to eat unleavened bread seven days and to observe the feast of unleavened bread; seven days shall there be no leaven bread found in your houses.

The seventh month was signaled by the feast of trumpets and the celebration of the feast of tabernacles.

Seven weeks was the interval between the passover and the pentecost.

The seventh year was observed as the Sabbatical year, and the year succeeding seven times seven years as the year of jubilee.

Seven days were appointed as the length of the feasts of tabernacles and passover.

Seven days for the ceremonies of the consecration of the priests.

Seven victims were to be offered on any special occasion.

When Abraham and Abimelech wanted to confirm an oath they took seven ewe lambs of the flock.

Jacob served Laban seven years for each of his daughters.

Delilah bound Samson with seven green withes and wove the seven locks of his hair in the web.

Seven priests, bearing seven trumpets, passed round the walls of Jericho seven days, on the seventh day passing around seven times, and it fell.

Nebuchadnezzar had the furnace heated seven times hotter than it was wont to be heated to burn the three Hebrew children, and was driven from among men to the beasts of the field until seven times passed over him.

Elisha commanded Naaman to wash in Jordan seven times and be cured of his leprosy.

The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men who can render a reason.

In the new testament the Saviour commanded to forgive an erring brother not until seven times, but seventy times seven if he repeated.

In Revelations of St. John we read of seven churches, seven spirits, seven stars, seven seals, seven lamps, seven golden candlesticks, seven angels, seven vials and seven last plagues.

The General's Scarf Pin.

It is related of General Von Manteuffel, the late German Military Governor of Alsace, who hated all that was French, that he once at a public dinner engaged in a dispute with a French diplomat who maintained the superiority of the French workmen over the artisans of all other nations. "A thing so ugly does not exist that the skill and genius of a Frenchman cannot make it a thing of beauty," he said. Angered by this contradiction, the old soldier pulled a hair from his bristly gray mustache, and handing it to the Frenchman, said, curtly: "Let him make a thing of beauty out of that, then, and prove your claim." The Frenchman took the hair and sent it in a letter to a well known Parisian jeweler, with a statement of the case and an appeal to his patriotic pride, giving him no limit of expense in executing the order. A week later the mail from Paris brought a neat little box for the General. In it was a handsome little scarf-pin made like a Prussian eagle, that held in its hands a stiff gray bristle, from either end of which dangled a tiny gold ball. One was inscribed Alsace, the other Lorraine, and on the eagle's perch were the words: "You hold them but by a hair."

According to an old belief, it was supposed that devils could at any moment assume whatever form they pleased that would most conduce to the success of any contemplated enterprise they might have in hand; and hence the charge of being a devil, so commonly brought against innocent and harmless persons in former years was easily understood.

Curious Facts About Papers.

Two editions of the American Newspaper Directory are published this year by George P. Rowell & Co. One is dated 1776, and you can almost hide it under an old-fashioned copper cent. It contains in sixteen microscopic pages a list of the thirty-seven newspapers that were printed in the United States of America 110 years ago. Seven of them are still alive. It is the other and the larger volume which is more immediately adapted to the needs of 1886. The contrast is impressive. Almost as big as an unabridged dictionary, with nearly 2,000 pages crammed with matter interesting to every newspaper man and to every newspaper advertiser, it is in the fullest sense a dictionary to the American press of to-day.

There are now published in the United States 14,100 newspapers and periodicals of all classes. The net gain of the year has been 566. The daily newspapers number 1,216, a gain of 33. Canada has 679 periodicals. There are about 1,200 periodicals of all sorts, which, according to the ratings and estimates of the editor of the directory, enjoy a circulation of more than 5,000 copies each. The increase of the weekly rural press, which comprises about two-thirds of the whole list, has been most marked in States like Kansas and Nebraska, where the gain has been respectively 24 and 18 per cent. Kansas alone shows the greatest gain in daily newspapers. The weekly press is gaining in Massachusetts, while the magazines and other monthly publications are losing ground there. The tendency of such publications toward New York City, as the literary centre, is shown by the establishment there of not less than twenty-three monthly periodicals during the year.

There are 700 religious and denominational newspapers published in the United States, and nearly one-third of them are printed in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and Chicago. New York is far ahead in this respect, but Chicago leads Boston. Three newspapers are devoted to the silkworm, six to the honey bee, and not less than thirty-two to poultry. The dentists have eighteen journals, the photographers nine, and the deaf and dumb and blind nineteen. There are three publications exclusively devoted to philately, and one to the terpsichorean art. The prohibitionists have 129 organs to the liquor dealers' eight. The women suffragists have seven, the candy makers three. Gastronomy is represented by three papers, gas by two. There are about 600 newspapers printed in German, and forty-two in French. The towns which have most French periodicals are New York, New Orleans, and Worcester, Mass.—four apiece. There are more Swedish prints than French. Two daily newspapers are printed in the Bohemian tongue. The toughest names are found among the Polish, Finnish, and Welch press, for instance, the Dziennik and the Przejsciel Ludu of Chicago, the Yhty-uuskala in Snomat of Ohio, and the Y Waver of Utica, New York. There is one Gaelic publication, one Hebrew, one Chinese, and one in the Cherokee language.—Paper World.

Chinese Diplomacy.

Prince Bismarck complained not long ago of the way our Foreign Office inundated him with dispatches, but even the writing powers of Downing street would not be a patch upon those of Chinese statesmen. A mastery of inaction is there studied to perfection, and it is rare that any case is settled until reams of paper have been covered in thrashing out every detail. A Chinese dispatch must be written in a certain stereotyped form, and in acknowledging a dispatch you must begin by quoting in extenso all the documents to which you are replying. This system of reproducing all the previous correspondence proves very cumbersome as the case gradually develops. Like a lady's letter, however, the pith of a Chinese communication generally lies in the postscript, and a practiced hand will grasp the meaning at a glance. The Viceroy of a Chinese province peruses some hundreds of these documents every day, and attaches a minute to each in a business like style which is not excelled by our best organized departments at home.—Nineteenth Century.

Americans Buying Estates in Europe.

Wealthy Americans are following the example of Mr. Winans, the Baltimore millionaire, in the purchase of important estates in European countries. Lately two islands, Loppin and Kalven, in the north of Norway, were purchased by an American for the sum of \$5,000, which was considered a very small amount for the property, as it affords good sporting and fishing opportunities. Loppin is about eight miles, and the smaller island three miles in circumference, and the shooting consisted of piper, snipe, ptarmigan, wild geese and wild fowl of every description, while in addition there was any amount of sea fishing. The climate was beautiful in summer, and the scenery very grand. Ancient estates are also rapidly coming on the market in England.—San Francisco Chronicle.

God's presence is enough for toll and enough for rest. If he journey with us by the day, he will abide by us when nightfall comes, and his companionship will be sufficient for direction on the road and for solace and safety in the evening camp.—Madelven.