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Short correspondence of subjects of interest to the public is solicited; but persons must not be disappointed if they fail to see their articles in our columns. We are not responsible for the views of correspondents. Anonymous communications go to the waste basket.

THE NEGRO PRESS.

It may be said that the Negro press is to-day, what the Negro preacher and teacher were to the race twenty years ago. Our press cannot be disposed of any more than one of these important personages could or can to-day. The press is our defense when we are unjustly assailed by the enemy, and our advocate at all times and in all places.

It is the training school for our young men and women who want to become writers. They can always find an open column in the Negro press to exhibit their talent by telling of the daily doings of our people in all parts of the country. It is our observer, advocate, messenger and defense. By the Negro press the world learns what we are in every other respect. Our press tones down and makes the white press more tolerable in its sayings towards us.

Our press needs to be encouraged by more liberal subscriptions from our people and by contribution of articles by the readers and thinkers of our race. The most of our papers are credited to the race. Many are devoted to particular churches, societies, &c., while many are independent of all societies and of course take part in the politics of the country. A democratic Negro paper is a very rare thing, though there is said to be a few in the country.

The first newspaper published in North Carolina by colored men that we have been able to learn of, was established in Fayetteville 1874, and not only was the writing done by colored men, but the type setting and everything else was done by colored men. In the last thirteen years about forty newspapers have been started which are no more. Many great sacrifices have been made to educate our people up to the importance of patronizing our papers. Their great good is not realized and appreciated.

The New York Freeman is said to be the best paper published now by a colored man. Mr. Fortune is an able and fearless writer. He is a practical printer and knows how to make a success in his business.

Our State press is not what it ought to be, but the publishers should not be blamed. The patrons have much to do with making a paper. The paper is every Negro's friend and every Negro should be a friend to the paper. The A. A. Presbyterian is the organ of the colored Presbyterians of the State and has been ably edited for a number of years. The Star of Zion the Zion Methodist organ has one of the best writers of the connection at its head, and deserves a hearty support. There are about ten papers published in this State by colored men and it is supposed there are about one hundred in the Union published by colored men. The editors of these papers have a hard time and make many sacrifices. They make no money and live hard and get much abuse from those who ought to be their heartiest supporters.

The Negro press is improving. It is much better now than it was a few years back. Many of our best men have come to the desk and by their ability and fitness give tone to the Negro press. Every Negro that can read ought to take as many papers as he can pay for, especially his church paper and the nearest and best secular paper.

The colored knights of Powder Springs will soon own a hall in which to hold their meetings. They have purchased a lot and are preparing to erect thereon a two-story frame building. The upper floor will be used for the assembly room, while the lower will serve for a school room.

LAURINBURG---WADESBORO AND MONROE.

We reached Laurinburg about 11 o'clock on Wednesday of last week. We found Rev. P. J. Holmes engaged in a protracted meeting of much interest. Rev. W. H. Smith was called to Raleigh in the interest of the M. E. church there. Rev. H. M. Murphy has joined the S. C. conference of the M. E. church. Rev. Mr. Sowell of the A. M. E. church is teaching school in the town. Rev. W. H. Woodward is getting along nicely with the Baptist church here. W. P. Evans seems to be prospering in the grocery business. We have previously spoken of the prosperity of our people in this town. An election was held in the county last week to ascertain whether or not the county commissioners might levy a special tax of \$100,000 to help build the Smithville & Tennessee railroad. In Laurinburg the vote was almost unanimous against a subscription, the county gave a large majority against it. Thursday we visited

WADESBORO.

The old town is quiet, but making substantial improvements. The colored Baptists are erecting a church near the old school house. Mr. G. J. Melton is in charge of the public school. A strange fever has broken out here, by which no one seems to be hurt, though it is said about a dozen clerks and business men have given up and left town on account of it. It is called "the coffee pot fever." A new coffee pot has been patented and the whole town wants to get rich by selling them.

The colored people of this town are particularly fortunate in having so able a young man as Mr. Melton to train the youth. He is a graduate of Bidle University and is prepared to do great good among our people here. They have also the association of that talented young lady, Miss Georgia Simmons. She is a young lady of rare ability. She has fine musical talent and sings and performs equal to the best. The people should be careful to show a proper appreciation of such talent and accomplishments when thrown in their midst. Such persons scattered around will soon bring our people up to what is desired of them. Miss Georgie is one of the brightest music scholars in the State. She will will assist Mr. Melton in his school. On Friday we stopped in

MONROE.

The new court house is progressing rapidly and is almost ready for the roof. It will be the finest court house we have seen in the State and will cost about \$35,000. Mr. Robert Simmons has charge of the public school here assisted by Miss Porter. Miss Jane Middleton has for some time been teaching sewing and fancy work to the young ladies here. Rev. Simmons is holding his own with his people. Rev. J. A. Chresfield, the Presbyterian minister, is making friends fast. Judging from their eager and promptness in paying for this paper we suppose the colored people here must be getting on well.

MR. CLEVELAND AND THE NEGRO.

Reference has been made by our local editor to the President's appointment of Mr. Matthews and Mr. Trotter as Recorder of Deeds. That is one point on which we do not agree with our local. If the Negro is a free man, and as the Republicans claim, has a right to exercise his franchise according to the dictates of his own notions, then he has as much right to be a Democrat as a white man has to be a Republican, and when a Republican Senate refuses to confirm a man because he is a "colored Democrat," those Senators prove their insincerity and show that they are not friends to the Negro, but merely accept him as a tool to "vote the Republican ticket." We do not encourage colored men to be Democrats, but when they see their best interests in that party they have a right to go there. We have not seen that way yet and are not ready to go. The following from our issue of January 15th will show how we have stood all the while on the Matthews case:

"If our words would avail anything, we would say to the Republicans in the United States Senate, confirm J. C. Matthews, Register for the District of Columbia. Because he is a colored man is no reason why he should not

hold office under a democratic administration. Republican Senators make a double mistake when they refuse to confirm him. Some say there is a set of northern republicans opposed to a negro holding office under any kind of administration."

A Human Curiosity.

Lea Simonton, wife of Jerry Simonton, of Levy county, Florida, gave birth on February 10 to a child which probably is the greatest curiosity living. The child has no eyes and scarcely the semblance of an ear; its fingers are about four inches long and not larger than a broom straw, and legs and arms not larger than a small finger. The child was living at last accounts and doing well.

There is a lady graduate of Atlanta University teaching at Reddick, Fla., whose school contains 130 pupils (Miss Mattie Iverson), hears four lessons a day from each pupil, and gives general satisfaction. She is a blessing to the race. A. N. R.

Watches! Clocks, - Spectacles, Eye-Glasses, and all kinds of Fine Jewelry can be bought cheap at the Jewelry Store of Hales & Boyne, West Trade Street, Charlotte, N. C.

Prompt attention paid to orders by mail and satisfaction guaranteed. We refer you to the editor of this paper.

SAVE MONEY AND DISAGREEABLE CONTROVERSIES! with agents who persuade you to send off your little pictures to New York to have them enlarged and framed. You can have all this sort of work done at home much better and just as cheap, notwithstanding the false assertions these agents make to you, by calling at

H. BAUMGARTEN'S Photograph Gallery, Charlotte, N. C.

PROFESSORS E. MOORE and S. G. ATKINS, EXPERIENCED

NORMAL SCHOOL WORKERS & INSTITUTE CONDUCTORS,

Will be prepared to accept calls to any work in this line during the summer. Superintendents or other school officials who would avail themselves of the professional services of these gentlemen are invited to address either one or both of them.

ZION WESLEY COLLEGE, Salisbury, N. C.

CAPE FEAR AND YADKIN VALLEY RAILWAY COMPANY.

Condensed Schedule, No. 19.

Table with columns for Train Name, Passenger, Freight and Mail, and Time. Includes routes like Lv Bennettsville, Lv Maxton, Lv Sanford, etc.

Table with columns for Train Name, Passenger, Freight and Mail, and Time. Includes routes like Lv Belew's Creek, Lv Greensboro, etc.

Freight and Passenger Train runs between Fayetteville and Bennettsville on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Freight and Passenger Train runs between Fayetteville and Greensboro Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and between Greensboro and Fayetteville Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Passenger and mail train runs daily except Sundays. The north bound passenger and mail train makes close connection at Maxton with Carolina Central to Charlotte.

W. E. KYLE, General Passenger Agent. J. W. FRY, Gen'l Supt.

HENDERSON'S BARBER SHOP THE OLDEST AND BEST.

Experienced and polite workmen always ready to wait on customers. Here you will get a NEAT HAIR CUT and CLEAN SHAVE.

JOHN S. HENDERSON, East Trade Street, Charlotte, N. C.

Tutt's Pills advertisement. Stimulates the torpid liver, strengthens the digestive organs, regulates the bowels, and acts as a cathartic. Anti-Bilious Medicine. Sold Everywhere. Office, 24 Murray St., New York.

WITKOWSKY & BARUCH.

The Princely Gift of \$5,000!

TO BE DIVIDED OUT.

Referring to the heading of this notice, we do not try to catch the ear of the public by such "clap-trap" advertisements as selling out because going to Tennessee or some other seaport town, nor selling out because of orders received from headquarters to "move on." No, no such "Wizard Oil" now you see me and now you don't concern calls your attention to the following. Your attention is called by a bona fide established business house which has in the past, does so now and will continue in future to deal squarely with you, calling "white" white, "black" black, a house which means just what it says and says what it means. Now, then we say that we will divide \$5,000 among those who will take advantage of it, and in doing so we desire it distinctly understood that we do not propose to lose that amount out of our pocket. No, by no means; we do not do business to lose money, but because of an upright, successful business career among you for over one-third of a century. We are in position to have the ready cash to buy with. We use it for all it will do with those in need of the "all-powerful CASH."

SPRING AND SUMMER CLOTHING

at a great sacrifice to the seller, necessitating our buying larger quantities than usual—and it is this superfluous stock we must, shall and will dispose of, and at least at \$5.00 less than usual price. We intend to advertise this "Special Sale" extensively, and expect a big rush from our neighboring towns, hence we advise our near-by trade to avail themselves of these bargains at once. Usually sales of this kind are made at the end of a season, when the purchaser gets but little good out of his purchases—has to lay it away for another season only to then find that his suit looks old—but this sale consists of clothing for the Spring season just arriving.

500 SUITS

Men's Clothing, among which are all-wool coarses, in black, blue and brown, worth \$13.50, \$15, \$16.50 and \$20, sell now at \$8.75, \$10, \$12.50, \$15.

Prince Albert coat and vest, in Dablias and Tricots, worth \$25, for \$14.

Men's all-wool Cassimere Sack and Frock Suits, worth \$25, \$30, \$12, \$15, sell now at \$5.75, \$6.50, \$7.50, \$9.

All custom-made Cassimere Suits, worth from \$15 to \$25, at the uniform price of \$10.

All-wool Blue Flannel Suits at \$5, worth \$9.

A large variety of all-wool Norfolk Jackets, worth \$7, at half price, which means \$3.50.

You will find among these lots suits for Clergymen, Bankers, Doctors, Merchant, Farmer, Mechanic and Laborer.

We have them for all, nor is the 250 and 300-pounder forgotten—we have suits as large as size 50.

MOTHERS! MOTHERS! Nor have we forgotten your darling boy who goes to school or flies a kite. We have 200 Short Pant Cassimere Suits at the ridiculously low prices of

\$1.25, \$2, \$3, \$4 and \$5, —WORTH— \$3, \$4, \$5, \$6 and \$7.

400 Long Pant Cassimere Suits, ages 9 to 18 years, are selling at

\$2, \$2.50, \$3, \$4, \$5, and up. —CHEAP AT— \$4, \$5, \$6, \$7, \$8, and up.

Boys' Cassimere Odd Long Pants, at 65 cents a pair.

Men's Cassimere Pants at 90 cents a pair. Men's all-wool Cassimere Pants, which readily sell at \$3.50 to \$5 a pair, now at the uniform price of \$1.75 a pair. Higher priced goods proportionately low.

Our entire stock of Hats and Gents' Furnishing Goods will also be sold at marvelously low prices

The prices we quote above are not merely fancy figures, they are figures at which those goods will be sold. We cordially invite one and all to inspect and invest.

Terms of this sale CASH on delivery.

Respectfully,

Wittkowsky & Baruch CHARLOTTE, N. C.

CAROLINA CENTRAL R. R.

On and after Jan. 23d, the following schedule will be operated on this road: PASSENGER, MAIL AND EXPRESS TRAINS.

NO. 1, Daily, except Sunday. Leave Wilmington at 6:00 a.m. Leave Shoe Heel at 11:00 a.m. Leave Charlotte at 3:42 p.m. Leave Shelby at 6:52 p.m. Arrive at Rutherfordton 8:49 p.m.

NO. 2, Daily except Sunday. Leave Rutherfordton at 6:00 a.m. Leave Shelby at 7:53 a.m. Leave Charlotte at 10:28 a.m. Leave Shoe Heel at 3:56 p.m. Arrive Wilmington 8:00 p.m.

NO. 3, Daily except Sunday. Leave Wilmington at 6:45 p.m. Leave Raleigh at 7:00 p.m. Arrive at Charlotte at 7:35 a.m.

Leave Charlotte at 8:15 p.m. No. 4. Arrive at Raleigh at 8:35 a.m. Arrive at Wilmington 8:45 a.m.

Trains No. 1 and 2 make connections at Shoe Heel with trains on the C. P. & Y. V. railway.

Trains No. 3 and 4 make close connection at Hamlet with Raleigh and Augusta trains to and from Raleigh.

Through sleeping cars between Wilmington and Charlotte and Raleigh and Charlotte.

Take Train No. 1 for Statesville, stations on the Western North Carolina R. R., Asheville and points west. Also, for Spartanburg, Greenville, Athens, Atlanta and all points Southwest.

Local freight Nos. 5 and 6 tri-weekly between Wilmington and Hamlet. Local freight Nos. 7 and 8 tri-weekly between Hamlet and Shelby.

Trains 5, 6, 7 and 8 will not take passengers. L. C. JONES, Superintendent. F. W. CLARK, General Passenger Agent.

RICHMOND & DANVILLE R. R.

Condensed Schedule. TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

Table with columns for Date, Train No., and Time. Includes routes like Lv. New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, etc.

Trains GOING NORTH.

Table with columns for Date, Train No., and Time. Includes routes like Lv. Atlanta, Spartanburg, Charlotte, etc.

Trains GOING NORTH.

Table with columns for Date, Train No., and Time. Includes routes like Lv. Atlanta, Spartanburg, Charlotte, etc.

Daily, except Sunday.

A. T. & O. DIVISION.

Table with columns for Train Name, Mail and Express, and Time. Includes routes like Leave Statesville, Troutman's, Shepherd's, etc.

Table with columns for Train Name, Mail and Express, and Time. Includes routes like Leave Charlotte, Section House, Stoneville, etc.

SLEEPING CAR SERVICE. On trains 50 and 51, Pullman Buffet sleeper between New York and Atlanta.

On trains 52 and 53, Pullman Buffet sleeper between Washington and New Orleans, Washington and Augusta.

Pullman sleeper between Richmond and Greensboro.

Through tickets on sale at principal stations to all points.

For rates and information apply to W. A. MOODY, Agent, or E. B. THOMAS, C. W. CHEARS, General Manager. Asst. Gen. Pas. Agt. Richmond, Va.

MILLER BROS. STEEL PENS

THE BEST IN USE. When not for sale by retail dealers, we will mail 12 pens for 10c in 10 boxes of 1 dozen each, a receipt of \$1.25.

HELLO! WHO'S THERE? YES?

Come up Wade, and see the improvements. ELECTRIC LIGHTS, TELEPHONE, ELEVATOR,

And various other attractions. Just think of it, 425x76 feet of flooring to be filled with

Crockery, China, Glass, Silverware, Tinware, etc.

Each department is to be separate, and under the management of polite and attentive clerks.

GRAND OPENING ON JANUARY 25, 1887.

Each visitor will receive a Souvenir. Respectfully,

R. B. HARSFIELD. CHINA PALACE.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

This is to certify that, by mutual agreement entered into on the 15th day of December, 1886, the partnership heretofore existing under the firm name of

L. B. HENDERSON & CO.,

is mutually dissolved, Nelson Carter having withdrawn and will do business for himself. All bills due the late firm of L. B. Henderson & Co. are payable to and collectible by L. B. & W. E. Henderson. All bills due creditors will be settled by the new firm.

We will conduct business at our old stand. The continued patronage of our friends solicited. L. B. & W. E. HENDERSON.

HARTER'S IRON TONIC

THE ONLY TRUE. Will purify the BLOOD, regulate the LIVER and KIDNEYS and drive out the HUMORS and VICES OF YOUTH. Indigestion, Lack of Strength and Tired Feeling absolutely cured. Bones, muscles and nerves receive new force. Enlivens the mind and supplies Brain Power.

LADIES. Suffering from complaints peculiar to their sex will find in DR. HARTE'S IRON TONIC a safe, speedy cure. Gives a clear, healthy complexion. All attempts at counterfeiting only adds to its popularity. Do not experiment—get the REAL and BEST.

DR. HARTE'S LIVER PILLS. Cure Constipation, Liver Complaint and Bile Headache. Sample Dose and Dream Book mailed on receipt of two cents in postage. THE DR. HARTE MEDICINE CO., ST. LOUIS, MO.

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Agricultural Implements,

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Offers his professional services to the general public.

CALLS ANSWERED DAY AND NIGHT.

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The traveling public will be accommodated with comfortable rooms and board. House situated on Depot street, in front of the Seminary, near depot, and convenient to all visitors. Terms reasonable. J. E. JOHNSTON.

\$8 WILL BUY A BEAUTIFUL SELF-feeding office or parlor stove. Cost new a few days ago \$15. Apply at THIS OFFICE.