

CHARLOTTE MESSENGER.

Published every Saturday at Charlotte, N. C. By W. C. Smith.

Subscription Rates.—Always in advance. One Year.....\$1 50 | 3 months..... 50 8 months..... 1 00 | 2 months..... 35 6 months..... 75 | Single Copy. 5

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IS LYNCHING A CRIME.

The dreaded "lynch" is so common in the south now, that we think some of our people must look upon it as no crime to "lynch a negro." In fact a majority of the white press of the south encourage it. We may mention a few exceptions: The Charleston News and Courier, Wilmington Messenger and Wilmington Star. We regret to say our city papers are among those which care so little for law and human life, that they generally speak of lynching as "Another Negro gone," "Met his usual doom," "Justly dealt" or something of the kind.

Now we ask the white men of the South, is it a crime to lynch a man? If it is not many of the white men of the South the bloodiest set of murderers unhung? How can we blame the Northern Republicans for shaking the bloody rag? When one man or a set of men take the law in their hands to punish crime unlawfully, he or they become violators of the law and should be tried and punished as law breakers.

Lynchers are murderers and nothing less and the fellow who goes along simply to see it well done, is an aider and abettor and should be punished. Our colored press has been handling this subject with too much delicacy. The white press has failed to do its duty, and the pulpit and good citizens generally, have failed to condemn and denounce this thing as they should. It should be denounced by all law abiding people, and it should be ferreted out and the men punished who engage in it.

Perhaps the colored editor, or preacher or any colored man who dares speak out about these things, endangers his own neck to the lyncher's rope. We have contended that this lynching can be stopped. It should be stopped. We say nothing of the victims, while we believe a large majority of them are innocent of the charges against them, but the effect it has upon the community.—There is no such thing as negro lynchings yet, though some white men have blacked their faces to deceive the victim in this as in many other crimes. The Negro imitates the white man in many things, and he will get into this horrible lynching business.

While we believe the law making rape a capital offense is a just law, we believe all men charged with this, as other offenses, should be properly arraigned and tried before a lawful judge and jury of his peers. We think there would be but little trouble in convicting any guilty party, and as the white men have all the machinery in their own hands, those pronounced guilty would meet the decree of the court. Then by having investigations the cause of the great trouble might be discovered, and that is what we need to correct any wrong.

Our conclusion is, lynching is a crime, and any person taking part in it is a murderer and ought to be hung as a murderer. We believe also that it should be stopped, and if the proper course is taken it can be stopped. If organization is necessary among the Negroes for anything, it is for the purpose of stopping this lynching now so common in the South. But it is the duty of the officers of the law and all good citizens to frown down the practice of taking men from officers of the law and killing them without learning whether or not they are guilty. Men should not do such things in a passion. Let all good citizens say it is a crime and must be stopped.

Comus Literary.

DEAR EDITOR.—The Comus Literary Society, organized some two years ago, is doing a good work. We number

nearly fifty members, male and female. We meet every Thursday evening at the residence of Dr. Rutherford, and hold our meetings in the school room of Bethany. The young people seem interested, and even the older heads are coming in, and this encourages us, the younger members. We have at each meeting a regular programme: Reading, singing, declamation, essay, lecture, and often we listen to a lecture from Dr. Rutherford that would make glad the audience of the best composed of white or colored of the educated. The singing is of the best. We have a fine organ and organist, Mrs. R., and we are so pleased and encouraged that I am compelled to speak to the world—that the Comus Literary is a coming one.

Lumberton Notes.

Mr. Editor.—The MESSENGER has been quite a welcome visitor in our midst, and each week its pages are scanned with renewed interest.

The District Conference of Wilmington District, M. E. Church, was in session here last week, Elder James E. Champlain, presiding. Quite a number of ministers and lay delegates were in attendance, much business of importance was dispatched, a great interest awakened in the work, and much good done. Ministers and lay delegates seemed to enjoy their short stay in our town, and are even loud in their praises of the kindness and hospitality of our people. At the close of the Conference the Sabbath School Convention went into session with Prof. D. P. Allen, president, Rev. C. W. Blaylock, secretary. This convention was merely organized and set in proper working order, and bids fair to become of much interest to the Sabbath school cause of the district. A code of by-laws and resolutions were adopted, after which the convention adjourned to meet again at night, at which time some splendid essays were rendered by Misses L. D. Lee, M. E. Lewis and others. Sunday was the day for Sabbath school concert, which was interesting indeed.

The people are busy in the cotton fields just now, but are getting very little for picking cotton—only 33 1/2 to 40 cents per hundred. The cotton crop is far short of what farmers expected earlier in the year—hence a multitude of sad countenances. Pea and potato crops, however, are better, hence your correspondent is agile, jolly, corpulent, and strong, and feels like "shouting the harvest home." Come down and let's go coon hunting.

Your correspondent visited Maxton and Piney Grove sections recently and found the people very busy in the harvest fields in each section. In the Piney Grove section are some of the finest crops, the kindest people, the prettiest girls, and the biggest "miss-keepers" we ever saw. Mr. Editor, don't you wish you could see 'em?

Miss S. T. Rayner, an accomplished and highly refined young lady, of Windsor, N. C., is stopping at Prof. Allen's, and attending the Whitin Normal. Miss Eliza Johnson, of Laurinburg, N. C., is also stopping at the Professors, and is also attending the Normal.

Miss Carrie B. Miller's school at Maxton will close on Friday, 23rd inst., Miss Carrie is one of our best and most worthy teachers and the people of Maxton have demonstrated their good judgments and wisdom by securing her services. Miss Harriet L. Powell's school last Friday, and she returned home the same evening. Miss Harriet is looking well and her friends are glad to have her return. Mr. C. R. Chavis of Mt. Zion section is in town looking well. Yours, &c. BACHELOR. Sept 20th 1887.

A Bottled Snake.

Mr. B. H. Freeman, of Toombsboro, has a moccasin snake that he caught when young, placed it in a bottle, corked it up perfectly airtight, and for two years it has had nothing to eat or drink, and is still alive.

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Presiding Elder's Appointments.

CHARLOTTE DISTRICT. Torrence Chapel—Sept. 18. Clarksville (camp-meeting) Sept. 25. Trinity—October 2d. King's Mountain (supplied)—Oct. 2. O'Connorville (supplied)—Oct. 2. Moore's Sanctuary—October 9. Simfield—October 16. Hudson—October 23. Grace—October 30. Centre Grove (supplied)—Oct. 30. Jonesville (supplied)—October 30. China Grove—October 30. Mount Holly—November 6. District Conference, Clinton Chapel, October 12, 1887. Bishop Hood will meet the appointments at Moore's Sanctuary and China Grove. R. S. RIVES, P. E.

WADESBORO DIST.—Fourth Round.

R. H. Simmons, P. E. of the Wadesboro District, will hold quarterly meetings as follows:

Zion Chapel, September 10 and 11. Best Chapel, September 17 and 18. Wayman's Chapel, Sept. 17 and 18. Rocky Mount, September 24 and 25. Harris' Chapel, (C. M.) Oct. 1 and 2. Mount Zion, (C. M.) October 1 and 2. St. Steven, October 8 and 9. Gatewood Station, October 8 and 9. Rockingham, Dist. conference and Sabbath school convention, Oct. 11, 14. Rockingham, (Q. M.) Oct. 15 and 16. Cedar Hill, October 22 and 23. Morven, October 29 and 30. Mount Airy, October 29 and 30. Gooden's chapel, S. C., Oct. 29, 30. Wadesboro, November 5 and 6.

The pastors of the above named churches will please appoint preaching at 11 o'clock a. m., and quarterly conference at 2 o'clock p. m. Try and have all of the general fund by that time. Let us raise every cent of money that this district owes

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THE MESSENGER is published every Saturday at CHARLOTTE, - - N. C., in the interests of the COLORED PEOPLE AND THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

It is the only Republican paper in the Western end of the sixth Congressional District.

Subscription, \$1.50 per year. W. C. SMITH, Editor and Proprietor, Charlotte, N. C.

CAROLINA CENTRAL R. R. CHANGE OF SCHEDULE. Wilmington, N. C., May 15, 1887. WESTBOUND TRAINS. May 16, 1887. No. 1. Daily ex. Sunday. No. 3. Daily ex. Sunday. Leave Raleigh (R & A), Maxton, Hamlet, Wadesboro, Charlotte, Lincolnton, Shelby, Arrive Rutherfordton, 9 10

EASTBOUND TRAINS. May 16, 1886. No. 2. Daily ex. Sunday. No. 4. Daily ex. Sunday. Leave Rutherfordton, Shelby, Lincolnton, Charlotte, Wadesboro, Hamlet, Maxton, Arrive Wilmington, Raleigh, (R&A)

Trains Nos. 1. and 2 make close connection at Maxton and from Fayetteville, Greensboro and other points on C. F. & Y. V. Ry. At Wadesboro with trains to and from Cheraw, Florence and Charleston. At Lincolnton to and from Hickory, Lenoir and points on C. & L. Narrow Gauge Ry. Trains Nos. 3. and 4 make close connection at Hamlet with trains to and from Raleigh. Through sleeping cars between Wilmington and Charlotte and Charlotte and Raleigh. Take train No. 1 for Statesville and stations on the W. N. C. R. R. and points west. Take train No. 2 for Cheraw, Florence, Charleston Savannah and Florida, also for Fayetteville and C. F. & Y. V. stations. Train No. 2 connects at Wilmington with W. & W. No. 14 and W. C. & A. No. 27. Take train No. 3 for Spartanburg, Greer-ville, Athens, Atlanta and all points south-west; also for Asheville via Charlotte and Spartanburg. No. 3 connects at Wilmington with W. & W. R. R. No. 23. Train No. 4 connects at Wilmington with W. & W. No. 78. Local Freight Nos. 5 and 6 tri-weekly between Wilmington and Laurinburg. Local Freight Nos. 2 and 8 tri-weekly between Laurinburg and Charlotte. Local Freight Nos. 9 and 10 tri-weekly between Fayetteville and Rutherfordton. Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 will not take passengers. L. C. JONES, Superintendent. F. W. CLARK, General Passenger Agt.

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CAPE FEAR AND YADKIN VALLEY RAILWAY COMPANY. Taking effect 5.15 a.m., Monday, Sept. 5, 1887. TRAINS MOVING NORTH. Passenger and Mail. Freight and Passenger. Lv Bennettsville, Ar Maxton, Lv Maxton, Ar Fayetteville, Lv Fayetteville, Ar Sanford, Lv Sanford, Ar Greensboro, Lv Greensboro, Ar Dalton

TRAINS MOVING SOUTH. Lv Dalton, Ar Greensboro, Lv Greensboro, Ar Sanford, Lv Sanford, Ar Fayetteville, Lv Fayetteville, Ar Maxton, Lv Maxton, Ar Bennettsville

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