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THE
Charlotte Messenger
IS PUBLISHED
Every Saturday,
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CHARLOTTE, N. C.
In the Interests of the Colored People
of the Country.

Able and well-known writers will contribute to its columns from different parts of the country, and it will contain the latest General News of the day.

THE MESSENGER is a first-class newspaper and will not allow personal abuse in its columns. It is not sectarian or partisan, but independent—dealing fairly by all. It reserves the right to criticize the shortcomings of all public officials—commending the worthy, and recommending for election such men as in its opinion are best suited to serve the interests of the people.

It is intended to supply the long-felt need of a newspaper to advocate the rights and defend the interests of the Negro-American, especially in the Piedmont section of the Carolinas.

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W. C. SMITH Charlotte N. C.

The potato crop of the United States in 1887 aggregated 131,000,000 bushels on an acreage of 2,300,000, which was a yield per acre of fifty-six bushels. In the last eight years, 1883 was the "bannner" potato year. In that season, the yield was 208,164,493 bushels, raised from 2,280,275 acres, which was a yield of ninety-one bushels per acre.

The World asserts that "for a great metropolitan city New York is remarkably free from crime. When it is considered that this city has a floating population of fully 250,000 a day, who enter and leave by the different means of travel, and that many an unknown thief may slip in and commit robberies and get out, the wonder is how Inspector Byrnes keeps the crooked element so well in hand. But thieves will seek the society of crooked people as a rule and through his system no new or old thief can move about town twenty-four hours and fail to be known. If the thief is a stranger he is brought to some place by a fellow-thief, apparently, and he is there looked over and photographed by a vest camera, and described by one of the Inspector's keen detectives as 'Tommy Mugs.' The effect of Inspector Byrnes' system is seen and felt, but his methods are fully known to no one but himself. The unseen hand of the great detective is a strong factor in the life of every thief."

A Washington correspondent says in the Louisville Courier-Journal that "when debate on the floor of the House becomes very warm, and questions and answers fly so thick and fast that it is a wonder how the stenographers can tell who is speaking, Congressman Robert R. Hitt, Illinois, is often seen to leave his seat and stand for many minutes at the side of Chief McElhone or one of his assistants of the shorthand corps, watching every stroke of the pencil with the liveliest interest. The secret of the great attraction which this work possesses for Mr. Hitt is found in the fact that fifteen years ago, when a beardless young man, he was a member of the House staff stenographers and worked under the same veterans, John McElhone, who to-day superintends this important detail of the daily routine of the House proceedings. As a young man he entertained the greatest reverence for the lawmakers of the land, and confidently looked forward to the day when he should himself occupy a chair behind one of the shiny little desks on the floor of the House. This ambition he never lost sight of, though his varied career carried him abroad more than once, when he served as Secretary and Charge d'Affaires of our Paris Legation. He was Clerk to the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, and in 1881 Assistant Secretary of the State of Illinois, but in 1882 the ambition of his life was realized, and he was elected to the Forty-seventh Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of R. M. A. Hawk."

CHAINING HIS WIFE And Searing Her Body With a Red Hot Iron.

A Terrible Story of Brutality. Thomas B. Pinkleton Run Down in Lowndes County And Taken Back to Florida by Officers of the Law.

A recital of the treatment of his wife by Thomas B. Pinkleton, now in jail in Valdosta, Ga., is almost beyond the bounds of belief. It seems that several months ago Pinkleton married Miss Clara E. Lee, in Hamilton county, Florida, not far from the state line, and no sooner had the girl become a bride than her husband became a fiend. In less than three days he had beaten her so severely with an oaken paddle that she was confined to her bed for weeks. His cruel brutality multiplied so fast that he found she would leave him, and appeal to her people for protection. He threatened to kill her if she dared leave and declared that he would kill her father, too, if he were told of it. He enforced his threats by knocking the woman to the floor with his fist, a stick or anything that came handy. He would thrust a pistol in her face and with horrible curses and fiendish laughter repeat his threats. Many times he choked her till life was almost instinct and the only thing that saved her life was that the fiend incarnate supposed she was dead. As a further safeguard against her escape, he chained her to the bed with a chain, securing her by a turn around the ankle, and thus the helpless woman passed the dreary hours, while this human brute would be about his pleasures. At night, should he wake and find the woman in a different position from that when he went to sleep, a heavy scolding came down on her fragile form to remind her that she existed only at the will of a fiend. About two weeks ago Pinkleton asked his wife to leave the country with him, which with woman's ingenuity, agreed to, only asking leave to tell her people good-bye. She obtained permission and flying to her father told him her woes. Mr. Lee took his shot gun, and went after Pinkleton, but the cowardly cur cringed and begged for his life. He got away, and was later arrested. A gentleman on the street said that it was a fact that Pinkleton seared his wife with a hot iron in order to add to her torture. The people of Hamilton county are greatly incensed and Pinkleton may fare badly at their hands.

North, East and West.

The Ohio Republicans are organizing a Sherman League.

A fire at Fort Mackinaw, Wyoming Territory, destroyed \$100,000 worth of provisions, and the garrison has been put on half rations.

The Ashland steel works, about twenty miles north of Baltimore, have stopped work, the Reading strike causing a scarcity of coal.

At Woonsocket, R. I., the Harris Woolen mills was burned. Loss \$130,000.

Fire at St. Paul, Minn., destroyed two buildings occupied by a large wholesale grocer. Loss \$300,000.

Fire in Montreal destroyed \$100,000 worth of property. It was so cold that the fire ladders froze to the walls.

The Delaware rolling mills at Phillipsburg, N. J., shut down on Monday, owing to the scarcity of coal and dullness in the iron trade. Three hundred hands are thus thrown out of employment.

An immense bob-sled, containing fifty-two persons, collided with another sled while descending Broadway hill, Kansas City, last night, and was overturned. Seventeen of the occupants sustained injuries, three of them, young girls, being seriously hurt.

Edward Cohen, president of the City bank of Richmond, Va., died last night of heart disease. He was attacked yesterday afternoon while attending a meeting of the Richmond clearing house.

A fire in Montreal destroyed coffee mill and several other buildings. The fire department was powerless in consequence of the freezing of the hose. Loss \$200,000.

The residence of Frank Smith was burned at Lima, Ohio, and before the inmates, who were sleeping, could be awakened, the entire structure was enveloped in flames. Mr. and Mrs. Smith and their five children were burned to death before assistance could reach them.

James E. Nolen was hanged at Cambridge jail, Boston, Mass., for the murder of George A. Codman, his employer, a milk man, January 4, 1887.

At Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a fire gutted the large five-story brick building, No. 539 Wood street, occupied by A. W. McCoy & Co., wholesale stationers, and damaged adjoining buildings. Total loss \$100,000, insurance \$85,000.

Harper Pickens, for more than forty years the body servant of Governor Pickens, died a few days ago at the advanced age of ninety. Such was the fidelity and love he bore his master that during the time that Governor Pickens was minister to Russia he took entire control of the Governor's planting interests, and such was the confidence placed in him by his master that it is said the Governor would never make a change in his planting operations without consulting Harper, and that on one occasion while in Congress some question pertaining to national affairs came up for the Governor's decision, and being somewhat perplexed as to the true solution of the matter, he instinctively called for Harper's advice.

NOTES OF SOUTHERN PROGRESS.

There is talk of building a cotton factory at Asheboro, N. C.

A stock company is being organized to start a large cigarette factory at Danville, Va.

A Brunswick, Ga., Company will build a \$30,000 hotel on St. Simon's Island.

Machinery has been ordered to start a saw factory at Clarksville, Ga.

Negotiations are being made for the erection of an electric light plant at Reidsville, N. C.

Parties have been prospecting with a view to starting a soap factory at Petersburg, Va.

A broom factory is reported to be established at Reidsville, N. C.

About 100,000 acres of Arkansas timber lands have recently been purchased by Michigan parties who will develop, build mills, &c.

A company is being organized at Hico, Ark., to start a canning and evaporating establishment.

A site has been purchased by parties who will build a cotton mill at Columbus, Ga. Their capital stock will be \$200,000.

It is stated that the Rome, Georgia, Canning Company, will be organized with a capital stock of \$25,000.

It is reported that the Knights of Labor Tobacco Company will build a new factory at Raleigh, N. C.

Negotiations are being made for the erection at Raleigh, N. C., of a large auditorium capable of seating about 7,000 persons.

A company with a capital stock of \$15,000 has been organized to manufacture woollen yarns at Mossy Creek, Tenn.

A large cannery factory is to be erected at Chestertown, Md.

A large wood-working factory is being erected at Birmingham, Ala.

A sash, door, and blind factory, and a saw factory, are to be erected at Livingston, Ala.

It is reported that a shoe factory will be established at Mobile, Ala.

It is reported that a company is being organized to manufacture furniture at Thomasville, Ga.

The Sumner Glass Company, of Steubenville, O., are considering a proposition to remove their glass works to Bowling Green, Ky.

The American Wire Nail Company, of Covington, Ky., contemplate building a wire nail factory at Anniston, Ala.

It is reported that the Mann Boudoir Parlor Co. Company contemplate building large machine and repair shops at some point in the South.

The owners of the quarry at Rock City S. C., have recently erected a large frame building to be used as a hotel or boarding house for the workmen.

Southern News Notes.

Seven persons were drowned in Sand Lake about 10 miles east of Ennis Texas. They were skating on the ice.

The Wilmington N. C. Star says Mr. M. L. Groom, a merchant of Wilmington, came near bleeding to death by rupturing an artery in his nose while sneezing.

The train which left Columbia, S. C., for Spartanburg and Asheville was wrecked by striking a cow on the track, five miles above Ashton. The engine, the mail and express cars were thrown from the rails and demolished. The engineer, Ed. Bird, is seriously injured.

A little sixteen months old child of Mr. J. H. Williamson, of Berryhill, N. C., was painfully burned on its hands by accidentally falling into a pot of hot mush.

The Jasper Centennial committee have invited the President and Mrs. Cleveland to visit Savannah on February 22. Mrs. Cleveland will be asked to unveil the monument.

At Mobile, Ala., the Courthouse of Mobile County was destroyed by fire. A defective flue set fire to the roof, and the flames spread slowly and gave time to save the records. The building was valued at \$50,000.

The Rev. Dr. W. B. Shaw, the Baptist minister of Johnston S. C., who went crazy over the doctrine of sanctification and who attempted to commit suicide a few days ago by cutting his throat was found in the lunatic asylum in Columbia S. C.

Charley Taylor, colored, shot and killed Will Banks, colored, one week ago on Captain Tom Wilcox's place near Crisp, Ga. It was wholly unprovoked. Captain Wilcox arrested the murderer and he was lodged in jail the next day in Irwinville.

In Terrell County Ga., there lives a man, who, if not the oldest in Georgia, is the oldest man in southwest Georgia. His name is James Kilpatrick, and his age is 97 years. He is still in perfect health and able to walk with as much agility as many who are thirty years his junior, bidding fair to score a century.

Death of a Bank Officer.

R. M. Sloan, cashier of the Bank of Reidsville, N. C., died at his residence in that town after an illness of five days from pneumonia. He was one of the best known bank officers in the State. He began banking in the old Bank of Greensboro twenty-eight years ago. He was aged fifty-four years, and leaves a wife and six children. His life was insured for \$15,000.

TELEGRAPHIC TICKS.

THE SOUTHERN STATES.

News Collected by Wire and Mail From All Parts of Dixie.

A mine of paint clay has been found near McNair Station, Miss.

A snowfall is reported from the section about Hendersonville, N. C.

Petersburg, Lincoln County, Tenn., has subscribed \$25,000 for a bank.

Prohibition will rule in all but about a dozen towns in Arkansas this year.

The Standard Oil Company is to have a warehouse built at Tallahassee.

Pine Bluff, Ark., expects to handle 65,000 bales of cotton this season despite the short crop.

Clarksville, Ark., will follow the example of Little Rock and forbid the sale of cigarettes to boys.

Mrs. Polly Butler, living near Cleburne, Ark., is eighty years old and has eighty-two grand children.

Sam Lee, aged 35, died in jail at Corinth, Miss., last Tuesday. He was charged with horse stealing.

Only \$60,000 has been secured of the \$100,000 subscription at Pensacola, Fla., to secure the Pensacola and Memphis road.

Two human skulls were recently unearthed at Clarksdale, Miss., by men digging a ditch. Their presence there is a mystery.

A northern girl now living near Trenton, Tenn., takes her gun and goes afiel and kills more game than any of the young men.

At a ball near Hot Springs, Ark., recently a young lady, her mother, grandmother and great grandmother danced in the same set.

Strangers often ask if the population of High Point, N. C., is not about 1,000. A careful estimate shows the population to be about 2,500.

The Jackson, Tenn., Dispatch has been presented with an egg one inch in diameter and three inches long, and shaped like a Chinese lady's shoe.

The schooner Myra Pratt, Sherman master, of Mobile, was wrecked on Tamico bar a few days ago, and two lives lost.

The national democratic committee will meet in Washington on the 22nd of February next to fix the time and place for holding the national democratic convention.

At Nashville, Tenn., on Sunday night, Warden Pearcey of the State penitentiary discovered a desperate plot among the convicts to murder the guards and escape.

The oldest person in North Carolina was buried a few days ago, being about 120 years old. He went by the name of Adam Mendenhall, and at one time the body servant of the late George W. Mendenhall.

Seventeen negro farmers of Attala, County, Miss., each year give a prize to one of their number who raises the largest hog. The prize for the year was recently taken by Elam Meek. His hog was twenty-three months old and weighed 615 pounds.

During 1887, says the Brookhaven Radiator, there has been started in Mississippi three cotton and woolen mills, one blast furnace, four mines and quarries, three railroad companies, fifteen woodworking establishments and twenty-one miscellaneous industries.

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George Hunter, alike by name and occupation, of Ekenhockhatchie County, Fla., expects to receive \$14,000 back pensions from the United States government. He is an Indian soldier, and also claims to have hauled the first lumber for the first house in Orlando.

Work on the Stokdale and the Madison branch of the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley railway, North Carolina, commenced a few days ago. Part of the convict gang on the Monroe and Atlanta road has been removed to work on this new enterprise.

Captain W. S. Pitt, of Orlando, a well known saurian hunter of South Florida, has gone into the culture of tobacco, and will set out several acres near Orlando. The Captain says that in 1870, in the Poyntz, he raised fine tobacco and made it into cigars, which he sold rapidly at \$5 per hundred.

The reputation of High Point, N. C., as a health resort, for both winter and summer, is growing rapidly, and the attention of people in every direction is being drawn toward her. An able Presbyterian minister of Virginia speaks of going there to live with the hope of improving the health of both his wife and daughter.

Near Marion, Crittenden County, Ark., last week awoke was held over the body of Mrs. Wm. McNelly, the religious services being conducted by Parson Wm. Robinson. In the course of his remarks Rev. Robinson made use of several uncomplimentary allusions to other persons present, whereupon the husband of the deceased knocked him out with a club. The obsequies came to an untimely end.

Anderson, S. C., holds her reputation as a live stock market. The stablemen are sending out large numbers of mules and horses every day. Some one has asked what becomes of all the mules that are scattered over Anderson and surrounding counties every year. If they do not die rapidly and are not kept moving on into other counties, surely Anderson, Abbeville, Laurens, Greenville, Pickens and Oconee will soon be overstocked.</