

# THE CHARLOTTE MESSENGER.

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THE  
**Charlotte Messenger**

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Every Saturday,

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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.

It is now possible for a traveler to go direct by rail from the City of Mexico to British Columbia, a distance of 6,000 miles. This has been made possible by the recent completion of the California and Oregon railway.

It is stated that the auditorium in Chicago will be completed before June 17, the date of the Republican National Convention. The seating capacity of the hall will be 8,500. The Committee on Arrangements has decided to raise \$30,000 to be expended on decorations and conveniences for the delegates.

No end of fun was made of Secretary Seward, records the Springfield Republican, when he carried through his project for the purchase of Alaska. A glance at the commerce of that region last year, given in the report of Governor Swineford, shows that the market value of its products was nearly equal to the purchase money. She sent to market in 1887: In furs, \$2,500,000; fish, \$3,000,000; gold, \$1,350,000; lumber, etc., \$100,000; total, \$6,950,000. The fur interest has already taken second place in the list, and it is quite possible that the fisheries will be pushed hard by the mines in a few years. With a white, creole and partly civilized native population of nearly 10,000 in a country so rich in natural resources, the subject of some kind of a local legislature cannot long be safely delayed. Only a few people hold land there in fee simple, but hundreds of settlers are ready to prove their claims when Congress makes proper provision for such action.

Chemists, the St. James's Gazette says, have for a long time endeavored to find a good artificial substitute for quinine. Whenever war breaks out on a large scale the value of genuine quinine always rises very rapidly in the market. Many alkaloids, possessing more or less of the properties of the alkaloids of quinine, have been artificially formed; but by far the best of these was, until quite recently, antipyrine, or, to give it its full chemical name, dimethylxyloquinidine. This alkaloid, which was discovered in 1883 by Professor Knorr, of Erlangen, is a coal tar product, and was recently, in a letter to the London Times, put forward by Mr. Watson Smith as a remedy for sea-sickness; but its chief merit lies in the fact that it is a notable reducer of temperature. It has of late met with a formidable rival in antifebrin, another product of coal tar. Antifebrin is not only a perfect substitute for quinine, especially in cases of typhus and intermittent fever, but also a more certain and less objectionable cure than salicylic acid for rheumatism. Coal tar has already given us the most brilliant dyes, the rarest scents, the most powerful disinfectants, and saccharine, which is the sweetest of known substances. Yet its usefulness seems to be far from exhausted, and a Berlin professor the other day assured his class that from coal tar he could brew as good a cup of tea as from tea leaves.

## TELEGRAPHIC TICKS-

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The prisoners in jail at Chesterfield broke jail, and all of them escaped. They had obtained a two-inch auger from some one on the outside, it is not known from who or how, and with this instrument bored two holes in the ceiling overhead and one in the gable. They then tied blankets together and let themselves down to the ground. Sheriff King has been in search of the missing birds for two days, but up to this morning had not captured any of them.

The barns of Gen. E. Moise and Capt. W. R. Delgar, at Sumpter, were destroyed by fire. The horses were gotten out, but nothing else in the buildings was saved. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

The steamer Pomona, from Jamaica for New York, with a cargo of fruit and coffee, was towed to quarantine. She lost her propeller on the seventh, and was taken in tow by the steamship Hawsea, parted during the night and the steamship left the Pomona. She proceeded under sail till taken in tow by steamship New York from New York for Galveston, which brought her to Charleston bar. She experienced stormy weather.

### Woman's Cry For Freedom.

The International Council of Women was opened at Washington D. C., with religious services at Albaugh's Grand Opera House. The attendance was large. The Rev. Ada C. Cowles, the Rev. Antoinette Brown Blackwell, the Rev. Anna H. Shaw and the Rev. Amenda Deyo officiated. The subject of the sermon by the Rev. Anna Shaw was the "Heavenly Vision." After referring to St. Paul's vision of truth, she said:

"All down through the centuries God has been revealing in vision great truths which have lifted the race step by step, until to-day won anhood in this sunset hour of the nineteenth century is gathered here from the east and west, north and south, the women of every land, of every race, of all religious beliefs, with diverse theories and plans. But diverse and varied are our races, diverse and varied are our theories, diverse are our religious beliefs, yet we come together here, and now with one harmonious purpose—that of lifting humanity, both men and women, into a higher, purer and truer life. To one has come a vision of political freedom. She saw how the avarice and ambition of one class with power made him forget the rights of another. She saw how unjust laws embittered both those who made them and those upon whom injustice rested. She recognized the great principles of universal equality and rights and saw that all alike must be free, not that men, not that black and white men, but that mankind, humanity everywhere must be lifted up out of subjection into the free and full air of divine liberty.

### Killed His Father-in-Law.

News has been received at Raleigh N. C., of the killing of a man named Collins, by his father-in-law, who is keeper of the poor house of Nash county. Some months ago Collins ran away with the daughter of the keeper in opposition to the wishes of the latter and soon returned with his wife and took up residence with his father-in-law.

Collins was idle and a drunkard. He lived at his father-in-law's until the county commissioners notified the latter that Collins must be sent away and refused to support him longer. Collins was accordingly given money and sent away.

A few days ago he returned and declared publicly on the streets of Nashville that he intended to kill his father-in-law. That night he went to the latter's house and attempted to force his way in. It was very cold and he soon quieted down and begged for admission. He was finally admitted, and as soon as he was warm he began cursing and threatening his father-in-law, and made a motion to draw a pistol, whereupon his father-in-law seizing his shot gun, fired and shot him dead in the presence of his wife and others in the family. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict of justifiable homicide.

### A Glimpse of Centuries Ago.

It gives one a little flutter of excitement, says a correspondent of the London Referee, writing about the excavations at Pompeii, to look at a man, perfect in form and feature, lying just as he died on that November day exactly 1,600 years ago next November—to see his hands clenched and his teeth set, and the very look of horror on his face that came there as he fell, fleeing from the doomed city—fell to rise no more. And in another cave lies a beautiful girl of Pompeii, who died with her arms across her eyes, shutting out the sight of the swift death that was overtaking her. And near her lies a poor little dog who had died that day. He still wears the collar and chain that bound him to the kennel and prevented his escape. The poor little Pompeian bow wow, who lived 1,600 years ago, lies upon his side, his limbs drawn together in agony, his lips parted just as they were when they gave the last dying whimpers of terror and despair. That little dog of A. D. 79 had ached ever immortally, and like a good many four-footed immortals, he paid a good price for the edification.

The number of students in the German universities this winter is 26,945. The University of Berlin has 5,478. The other universities having a much smaller number.

## CURIOS FACTS.

Scraped horn was used for window lights in the ninth century.

Chambersburg, Penn., has a fire company that was organized 108 years ago.

Kidderminster, England, became renowned for its carpet manufactures about 1735.

The University of Pavia, Italy, which was founded by Charlemagne, is said to be the oldest in Europe.

Lanterns of scraped horn, glass not being much known, were invented, it is said, by King Alfred of England.

Inmates of an institution for the blind in Louisville, Ky., play baseball, judging of the whereabouts and direction of the ball by the sound only.

Ethiopia is Greek, the first part of the word meaning to burn, and the latter the face. Ethiopia, therefore, is the land where men have burned or dark faces.

Mrs. Margaret Arnold, of New Holland, Ohio, who will be 111 years of age on the 4th of next July, is an inveterate smoker, having used the pipe since her girlhood.

Out in Indiana a man was recently tried for disturbing a religious meeting whose offence consisted in reading a newspaper during the service. The Court promptly acquitted him.

Photographs of the man who stole a fifty-cent piece from the eye of Watson Sherman's corpse at St. Ignace, Mich., are being sold for the benefit of Sherman's widow.

H. H. Singleton, a blind man who lives near Toccoa, Ga., is able to tell the denomination of a banknote or check by feeling it, and can count money almost as rapidly as a bank clerk.

It is the custom in Turkey to have one servant in the house attend to nothing but the pipes of his master. He keeps them clean and sweet and thoroughly rinses them after each smoke.

The dog corps in the French army is being carefully trained at Belfort. Large dogs are chosen. Every day they are shown soldiers in German uniforms and taught to fly at them on sight.

An old cabin that was built by George Washington and occupied by him while surveying a part of the Shenandoah Valley is still standing in a fair state of preservation a few miles from Winchester, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Shepard, who live in Gadsden County, Fla., have nineteen children, the eldest of whom is twenty one years old and the youngest six months. Mrs. Shepard has given birth to twins on three occasions.

Catherine Woodson, a negro woman living in Macon, Ga., saw a boy thrown from the back of a runaway mule and fainted. She died soon after, and the coroner pronounced her death due to heart disease, caused by excessive fright.

Spectacles were actually invented about the year 1280, A. D., and certainly they were made previous to the year 1311. The man who conferred this great benefit on suffering humanity was Alexander Bpina, a monk of Pisa, who died in 1313.

There is a curious law in vogue in Scotland which compels every newly-married couple to plant trees shortly after the marriage ceremony. The trees ordered to be planted on wedding days are the pine and weeping willow. On natal days the suggestive birch-tree is selected.

Since 1789 all lighthouses on the United States coast have been maintained by the national Government. Previous to this light dues were levied upon commerce. The coast light in America was established in 1763; and the first lighthouse on Little Brewster Island, Boston Harbor, 1715-16.

An Eastern man named Burdick, who removed to Kansas several years ago, found on the open prairie, miles from any settlement, a tax receipt that had been given to his grandfather in Allegany County, N. Y., thirty-five years ago. His grandfather was never in Kansas and he is puzzled to know how the paper got there.

### "Perfect" Butter.

Prof. L. B. Arnold, the famous dairy expert, says he never judged but one sample of butter which came up to the standard of "perfect." That one was from a dairy whose product sells regularly in Boston for 80 cents a pound. The cream for this butter was raised by intense refrigeration, and kept thus till enough had accumulated for a churning. It was then ripened and churned. When properly granulated the buttermilk was drawn from the butter, which was then rolled and pressed into solid condition with the least possible working.

For 3,000 years there existed but three versions of the Scriptures. To-day they may be read in 350 of the 6,000 tongues that are spoken.

## WASHINGTON

### GOSSIP FROM UNCLE SAM'S CAPITOL

What our Busy Law Makers are Doing. Congressional and Other News.

In consequence of Secretary Fairchild's letter the official axe began to fall in the naval office of the New York customhouse last week. The removals included four Republicans, three Mugwumps and two Democrats.

W. Reed Lewis, United States consul at Tangier, has refused to accept the conditions under which the Sultan's secretary offered to settle the question arising from the imprisonment at Rabat of persons under the protection of the consul.

The death of Chief Justice Waite is the removal of a valuable public servant, of a man whose attainments and character were extraordinary and exemplary, as his distinction was illustrious and historic. His professional career from the outside was successful, and the quiet and unostentatious manner in which he performed his work assisted in creating that confidence in his ability which the Court and his fellow citizens entertained. "His assertion on any question was always accepted and undisputed," says a well known member of the Bar, who long observed him in his legal practice.

He was appointed Chief Justice by President Grant on the 21st of January, 1874, as the successor of Chief Justice Chase.

The first Chief Justice of the United States was John Jay, of New York, who was appointed in September 1789, and resigned to become minister to England in 1794. John Rutledge, of South Carolina, was appointed to the office on the 1st of July, 1795, during a recess of the Senate; was nominated to the Senate at the December session, but was rejected, having become since his appointment the victim of an incurable mental affection.

William Cushing, of Massachusetts, was nominated in January 1797, and confirmed by the Senate, but declined the office. He was an associate justice at the time, and his is the only instance in which an associate justice has been appointed to the position of Chief Justice.

Oliver Ellsworth, of Connecticut, was appointed on the 4th of March, 1796 and resigned in 1799 to become minister to France.

John Jay, who was then Governor of New York, was reappointed Chief Justice and was confirmed in December of 1800. There was some question in the Senate and in the public mind about that time regarding the propriety of appointing members of the Supreme Court to other offices, it being argued that the practice might have a tendency to interfere with the impartiality of the judiciary by opening up paths to political preference, but no imputation seems to have attached personally to either Mr. Cushing or Mr. Jay.

Mr. Jay declined the office after being confirmed, and John Marshall was appointed in 1801. He died in 1835 during a recess of Congress, being the first Chief Justice to die in office. Chief Justice Taney was appointed in 1836 and died in October of 1864.

Judge Chase was appointed to succeed him and died in May, 1873, his successor being Mr. Waite.

### NORTH, EAST AND WEST

The Central Theatre and the Theatre Comique, in Philadelphia, were destroyed by fire.

Ex-Governor John T. Hoffman, of New York died of heart disease at Welsbaden, Germany.

A white farmer, named Joseph Gill was murdered near Savannah Ga., by a negro cow thief.

William Milner, aged 65, residing near Winchester, Va., murdered his old wife and then killed himself.

The business of the Burlington Road has been blocked again, the cause of the present trouble being the strike of the switchmen in Chicago.

Mr. Davis was presented and Senator Logan delivered the oration at the commencement of the College of Alabama, in Mobile, on March 29th.

The heaviest snow storm of the season is raging in Wales and the west of Scotland.

Mrs. Thompson, wife of Col. R. W. Thompson, president of the Panama Canal Company and ex-secretary of the navy, died at Terre Haute, Ind.

The steamship Iniziativa, from Gibraltar, which has arrived at New York is detained at quarantine with a case of small pox in the steerage.

A German Widow in New York, crazed by poverty, gave her three children rat poison, and watched their agonies until two died. She then informed the police of her deed. She was arrested and the surviving child, in a hopeless condition, was sent to a hospital.

The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway in its answer to the bill of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, charges the latter road with having instigated the engineers' strike, with the view of forcing all competing roads to join it in the formation of a Trust.

### Good News for the Tenant.

Landlord—"I've called to tell you, Bridget, that I am going to raise your rent."

Bridget—"Glad to hear it, sor. Fajth, I can't raise it meself."—Sittings.

## A GRAND PALACE

A LOOK AT THE LARGEST BUILDING IN THE WORLD.

The Czar's Winter Palace at St. Petersburg—Its Immense Size and Gorgeous Interior Decorations.

The Czar's Winter Palace is the largest building in the world, says William E. Curtis in the Chicago News. It is about twice the size of the capitol at Washington, a square structure fronting on the Neva, contains 1,700 rooms, and, it is said, that in olden times as many as 6,000 people, including a guard of soldiers, have been sheltered and fed under its roof. The roof itself used to be the dwelling place of a large colony when it was necessary to keep watchmen against fire there, and men whose business it was to prevent the reservoirs from freezing by casting red-hot cannon balls into the tanks. These built huts between the chimneys of the great palace, had their families there, and even raised chickens and pigs and goats ninety feet above ground. But such guards are unnecessary now in the age of waterworks and fire engines.

The palaces of the Louis at Versailles, and of the German Emperor at Potsdam, are much more chaste and noble specimens of architecture. The Queen's castle at Windsor is by far more picturesque, the new building for the State, War and Navy departments at Washington surpasses the Winter Palace in beauty and simple elegance, while the new Palais of Justice at Brussels, the finest architectural work of this century, is grander, more graceful and pleasing in every respect; yet in none of these has so great an attempt at display been made or so much money expended.

The present building was erected upon the site of one occupied by the high admiral in the time of Peter the Great, and bequeathed by him to Peter's son. In 1754 that was pulled down by the Empress Anne, who commenced the erection of the present edifice, but left it to be completed by the Empress Catherine in 1762. Much of the interior was destroyed by fire in 1837, but was rebuilt, and the whole was renewed in its present form in 1839, at a cost of about 50,000,000 roubles. The palace has been occupied during the winter by all the Czars till the present one, who will not live there, but keeps it for ceremonies only, while he resides in the much smaller and less imposing house which he occupied while crown prince on the Nevski Prospect, the Fifth avenue of Petersburg.

The main entrance, which, however, is used only on occasions of ceremony, opens from the banks of the river into a magnificent vestibule of marble, with wide stairways reaching to the several halls and imperial reception rooms above. The stairway is adorned by groups of statuary, and the long vestibule, 200 feet by 60, presents an array of ideal figures in marble, as well as statues of the heroes of Russian history. The throne room is a magnificent apartment of marble, so large that the entire White House at Washington might be erected within its walls, and here, upon New Year's day, the Czar receives the congratulations of the diplomatic corps, the high officers of the government and the army, and the nobles. The white hall is also fine and large, but the most imposing room is the hall of St. George, 140 by 84 feet in size and 60 feet high, of marble, with a ceiling carved and gilded with pure gold leaf. There is no finer room anywhere, and it is used only for the assemblage and decoration of heroes with the Order of St. George, the highest the Czar can bestow, and like the Order of the Garter in Great Britain, a distinction enjoyed only by those who win it in the field or by some service to the State.

Another fine room is the hall of the ambassadors, where the diplomatic corps assemble on occasions of ceremony, while another is the hall of field marshals, so called because the walls are covered with the portraits of those who have commanded the armies of Russia. In these great rooms a multitude can assemble, and the balls and receptions that have taken place there surpass description. No court in Europe is so lavish in display as that of Russia, and, although the Czar entertains but seldom, he makes up in splendor what he denies in frequency.

These great halls have sometimes been used for banquets, and in them have dined, seated at tables at once, 3,000 persons, served on solid silver platters throughout a menu of twelve courses, by 1,800 liveried attendants, and the imperial family have sat upon a platform at the end of the room and taken their dinners off solid gold.

The rest of the great palace is divided into long lines of dining-rooms, drawing-

rooms, art galleries, reception rooms, etc., the most of which are of great beauty and gorgeousness, the amount of gilding to be seen passing all comparison. Not only furniture, but walls, ceiling, doors and moldings around the windows are covered with sheets of gold. There seems to be no end to the bedazzling display. Wherever an opportunity offered to slap on a lot of gold leaf there was no failure to do it, and the amount of bullion hammered into sheets and spread over that building must have been enormous.

There are several drawing rooms whose walls are of single sheets of glass of various colors, set in gilded frames, and the effect is gorgeous. We had seen no end of mirrors elsewhere, miles and miles of them, in the most unexpected and inapplicable places, mirrors in closets and attics, and cellars, bath-rooms and boudoirs lined, ceiled and floored with them, but these glass rooms are something new. Imagine, if you can, a large apartment, 40x30 feet in size, with walls and ceilings of purple glass, set in a heavily carved cornice of gold, the panels broken now and then by gilded tracery and filigree work, and from the centre of the ceiling an immense crystal chandelier of the same color hanging. And there was not only a purple glass room, but yellow, blue, pink, scarlet and all the other colors in the rainbow are represented. There are Japanese rooms, Chinese rooms, fitted and finished most sumptuously. Pompeian rooms, Roman rooms, and rooms setting forth an example of the luxury, the taste and the fabrics of all ages and races. Dozens of rooms are hung with Gobelin tapestry, and hundreds with ordinary silk and satin brocades. There is the gold room and the silver room, the red marble, and the green marble room, and a bewildering series of apartments that one cannot remember.

### Queer Notions Concerning America.

An English lady who had traveled over the greater part of Europe said she had a great desire to come to America, and her principal object in doing so was to shoot Niagara. I rather opened my eyes at this, and said that I thought she must refer to the celebrated trip down the rapids of the St. Lawrence, but she was very positive on the subject, and said she meant Niagara, and nothing else; she had understood that they did it in a steamboat, and she knew she should enjoy the sensation.

A well-educated middle-aged gentleman told me that the reason our civil war lasted so long was that we had no military men in our country, and that a war carried on entirely by civilians could not proceed very rapidly. If any of you have ever seen an English atlas you will understand why it is difficult to get from it a good idea of America. We shall find, in such an atlas, full and complete maps of every European country and principality, a whole page being sometimes given to an island, or to a colony in Asia and Africa; but the entire United States, with sometimes the whole of North America besides, is crowded into a single map. Some of these are so small that the New England States are not large enough to contain their names, and are designated by letters which refer to the names printed in an open part of the Atlantic Ocean. No wonder that the people who use these maps have a limited idea of our country.

But it is not only English people who appear to know very little about America. A German countess once asked me if we had any theatres in New York, and when I told her that there were not only a great many theatres in that city, but that it possessed two grand opera-houses at which, at that time, two of the leading prima donnas of the world were singing on the same nights, she was a little surprised. It is quite common in various parts of the Continent to hear people speak of the late war between North and South America. They know that the war was between the North and the South, and as it was in America, the mistake is natural enough to people who have studied only European geography.

### Tommy's Essay on Geese.

Geese hisses but ducks quacks, and wew Franky, that's the baby, is painfe in his lap he hollers, but the lion roars like dissant thunder, and makes the welkon wring! Uncle Ned, wich has been in Injy, and evry were, he says one night a lion come out of the woods and went to his correl for to eat his cattle. Uncle Ned he got up and looked in the correl thru a crack, and the lion shoked his teeth, and Uncle Ned said: "the iddiot thinks I am a dentist, but I haven't no time to tend to him. I'll send for the lion tamer to quell him with his I."—Washington Star.

The spook of the "Haunted Tavern" must have been an ins-ppector.