

CHARLOTTE MESSENGER.

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By W. C. Smith.

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W. C. SMITH, Charlotte, N. C.

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

MORE CIVIL SERVICE.

The President has extended the civil service regulations to the railway mail service. Hereafter when a new appointment is to be made the General Superintendent will have to go to the list of those who have passed a civil service examination to get a person to fill a vacancy or take a new place. There are about 8,000 employees in the service, and in the South nearly every Republican has been removed, and now in the last hours of Mr. Cleveland's struggles he attempts to have his partisans shielded under the next administration by a civil service rule.

We have had too little respect for this civil service law to learn of its magnitude. If it is the right of one President to say what class of officeholders shall be protected, then it will be the right of another to regulate to suit himself. A Republican administration with a Republican Congress will not submit to any such smuggling as that. Why should they allow Mr. Cleveland to fill all the places with his friends by turning out competent officials and then say these are protected by civil service and must not be interfered with. They must stay here till they die. Let a Republican Congress abolish the much abused law, and let the new President set aside all rules and orders that keep Democrats in office.

If Mr. Harrison wants to practice civil service let him try it in the North. We don't want any of it in the South. We want to do the Democrats just as they did us: Turn them out and fill their places with men of the Republican party.

DR. WILDER SUPERINTENDENT.

The officers for the construction of the proposed court house and post office in this city have been appointed: Dr. H. M. Wilder, Superintendent; S. J. Asbury, Foreman; Walter Brem, Clerk; J. S. Spencer, disbursing officer. The superintendent will get \$6 per day including Sundays. The foreman \$5 per day, the clerk \$4 per day, Sundays excepted.

It seems that some of our good Democrats have a stronger hankering after money than success of party. Who would have thought Dr. Wilder or Mr. Walter Brem would hold office under a Republican administration? Yet, if they accept these places one will be led to believe that so they get the place and pay they don't care what party is in power. Mr. Harrison will be President before the work begins on this building, and it is likely to continue two or three years. Why, even colored men here in this city disdained to hold office under Democrats and resigned. It will certainly look strange to see Dr. Wilder holding office under a Republican administration.

The appointments are in keeping with the Democratic party. They are all honorable gentlemen with a competency. The Democratic party never forgets

the aristocrat. Dr. Wilder is thought to be a man of means doing a good business and holding a county office. Mr. Brem is a partner in one of the largest firms in the city. Mr. Asbury is the largest contractor in this section.

Where is the poor laboring man, the hard working mechanic or the poor, but competent clerk in the many business houses here, he was not thought of in filling these places? And, why all this haste when work will not begin before next spring or summer? Poor man will your eyes never open? Don't you know all the good thing belong to the rich? Your Democratic leaders say so.

DANCY FALSE AS USUAL.

We do not object to a controversy with a person who regards honor and truth, but we spurn a man who always jumps behind some one else after throwing his dirt. When a man can't get out of a thing by truth, honor would suggest it is better to remain quiet.

Mr. Dancy charges us with making "uncalled for attacks on many of Zion's ministers and followers." We did no such thing. He charges us with criticising the whole Central Conference and Zion church. Mr. Dancy knows there is not a word of truth in what he says. We were particular to name the parties we blamed and criticised, in these words:

"Those who could not see the 'feasibility' were: Prof. S. G. Atkins, teacher at Livingstone College; Rev. Prof. W. H. Goler, teacher at Livingstone College; J. C. Dancy, Esq., editor at Livingstone College, and Rev. W. B. Fenderson, student at Livingstone College. The gentlemen would naturally oppose anything that looks like lessening their number at Livingstone. It is their right to do so."

Mr. Dancy's object here is as it has always been, to prejudice Zion's ministers against THE MESSENGER, its editor and the female seminary.

Let him fight the issue on manly principles. He must think his readers all very weak minded to compare our article to Cleveland's message. Why, some great men said Cleveland's message was a great State paper. We think we are fighting for a great and worthy cause and we stand like all others, who lose in the first round. When the leaders of the question to divide the North Carolina Conference failed, did they give up? When they failed to carry the presiding elder system at first, did they give up? No. Neither will the advocates of a female seminary give up the fight, Brother Dancy to the contrary notwithstanding.

Knowing the intent of the last article in The Star we admit it is with great difficulty we refrain from paying Mr. Dancy some compliments. We have as much respect for Zion connection and her ministers and do as much for them as Mr. Dancy does, and if the records of our church books don't show it we will give up. But the female seminary is what we want now. We would respectfully ask persons favoring the enterprise or such as see the feasibility of it, to pay no attention to selfish opposition. Mr. Dancy boasts of showing the Central Conference the way to vote in the matter, and while we would not reflect upon the Conference, we think, if it thought and acted for itself independent of such blatherskic and paid less attention to wind and gas, more good would be done.

THE SUPPRESSED VOTE.

In referring to the suppression of the colored vote in the South in our last issue, we did not give the data upon which must rest the fact that this section by one means or other, votes are kept out of the ballot box when it is necessary to ensure a different result from that desired.

Since our last issue we have been enabled to secure figures showing the vote cast in every state in the country, and one can see at a glance what we affirmed to be not only true but so strikingly so as to warrant the irresistible conclusion that it is so because of a well understood purpose.

Delaware stands next to Nevada, the most rotten pocket borough of the country. There were polled less than thirty thousand votes in the aggregate an average of 9,900 to an electoral vote. Oregon with the same number of electoral votes casts 60,000 votes or 20,000 an elector. Rhode Island shows a small vote about 10,000 an elector, but this is a result of a constitutional provision depriving there of a vote by a property qualification. Elections are fairly conducted in the border states of Virginia, West Virginia and Tennessee as compared with the Gulf and Cotton States and the results show a larger vote. The average for these states is a little over 25,000 votes cast for each elector. Georgia which has a population nearly equal to that of Michigan and Wisconsin polls 142,000 an average of 12,000 nearly. On the contrary Michigan polls 473,000 an average of 36,000, and Wisconsin 353,000 votes an average of 31,000. Mississippi polls 127,000 and Kansas 327,000 and yet they have the same number of electoral votes. In Mississippi 13,000 voters have the same power as 37,000 in Kansas. Louisiana polls 114,000 and California 248,000 more than twice the number; the former 14,500 to the latter's 31,010 and yet the latter have no more weight in determining the presidency than one half the number in the Pelican State. South Carolina shows 79,000 votes for nine electors and New Jersey 303,000 votes for the same number of the electoral college—one voter in the former state having nearly voting force of four votes in the free state of New Jersey. This matter should be remedied and by an election law that could be enforced.—*People's Advocate.*

REV. MILES FOR THE SEMINARY.

To the Messenger: DEAR SIR—The question of education is now the absorbing topic of the members of Zion Church. The education of the masses without regard to sex is what is desired by all thinking men and women. But the best means to use to reach the desired end is the question at which they differ.

There are some who think mixed schools are the best to develop higher social attainments; while others think the sex should be educated separately, and somehow I belong to the line of those who believe in separate schools. The fact that other denominations are being built up to the pulling down of Zion is one reason. When we look at the many intelligent young ladies turned out of the female seminaries, who were once strong members of Zion, now uniting with some other church, should awake an interest in us to do something to save this talent for the use of Zion. We need them. Besides there are many other reasons for the establishing of a female seminary for Zion's connection, but as there seems to be more objection to the seminary on the grounds of its feasibility than otherwise. There seems to be no need to endeavor to prove its need, but to show its practicability.

It is an old adage, "none know what they can do till they try." I have observed this one thing among many of our people; they think they are more indigent than they really are. They commenced this cry when they had a right to—after the emancipation when they were turned loose on the cold charities of the world, to either sink or swim, without a dollar. Then they had a right to stretch forth their hand for help and cry poverty. But since that time God has greatly blessed us as a race, and thousands of acres of land are now in possession of the colored man, and his savings can be counted by the million of dollars, and year after year we are going forward. One great reason our connectional support is so weak is that we continue to cry "we are not able. This infection usually begins in the pulpit, and as it is contagious it quickly spreads through the membership. Now what we want to do is to say "I can," and "I'll try."

Mr. Editor, I believe that a female semi-

nary for Zion is possible, probable, and yes, certain. Drive away with ink and pen—you will succeed, and you may set me down on your list as an earnest advocate of the project, and notwithstanding I am engaged in Moore's Seminary that opened at Lincolnton the first Monday in December, I am for the education of the race; one school can't do it. We must use all honorable means to accomplish the desired end. Let us lift ourselves above selfishness and stand by anything that aims to raise a downtrodden race. Let us take more interest in our girls, the neglect of which is some of the remains of heathenism, let us encourage virtue, morality and chastity, and when this has become a desire, among the girls of our race, then, and not until then, will our now much perplexed Negro problem be solved. Let us have religious, moral, virtuous and educated girls to preside as mistress in our families, and they will give to the world a generation of men and women that will be a power to this nation and an ornament to society. Educate the girls.

I will not further intrude on your valuable space, wishing you all the success imaginable, I am

Yours for education,

G. H. MILES,

Pastor A. M. E. Z. Church, Monroe, N. C.

IN MEMORIAM.

MRS. CARRIE S. ALSTON.

The committee appointed by the First Baptist Sunday School, of Charlotte, N. C., November 25, 1888, to take suitable notice of the death of Mrs. Carrie S. Alston, which sad event occurred at her home, in Cottage City, Mass., November 8, 1888, recommend to the school the adoption by a rising vote, the following resolutions:

That it is but a just tribute to the memory of the departed, to say that in regretting her removal from us that we mourn for one who was in every way worthy of our respect and regard, and that we bow in humble submission to the will of our Heavenly Father who doeth all things well.

That during her stay in this city she fully identified herself with our church, and was an enthusiastic worker in the Sunday school, and thereby won the hearts of many. We believe our lamented sister has been transferred by the Great Head of the church to a higher sphere of work and usefulness.

That we will try to imitate her virtues and cherish the hope of meeting her in the Heaven.

That we sincerely condole with the family of the deceased, on the dispensation with which it has pleased the divine providence to afflict them and commend them for consolation to Him who orders all things for the best, and whose chastisements are meant in mercy.

That this heart felt testimonial of our sympathy and sorrow be forwarded to the family of our departed friend, by the secretary of this meeting, and also furnish copies for publication to the CHARLOTTE MESSENGER.

MRS. DELLA EVANS,

MR. J. A. McCAW,

MISS E. J. HOUSER, Secy.

Committee.

MRS. J. S. E. POWELL.

Allow us a space in your most valuable paper to express our heart felt sympathy and love for our beloved pastor in his deep afflictions. It pleased our Heavenly Father in his all wise providence to call home our beloved sister, Mrs. J. S. E. Powell, on the 22d of October, 1888, after a long and severe illness, to her happy home of rest. While it is natural to sorrow for the loss of a faithful and devoted wife. We find consolation in the belief that his loss is Heaven—is eternal gain.

While we deeply sympathize with those who were bound to her by the nearest and dearest ties. We share with them the hope of a reunion in that better world where there is no parting and bliss ineffable forbids a tear.

Respectfully,

MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH.

Oct. 27, 1888.

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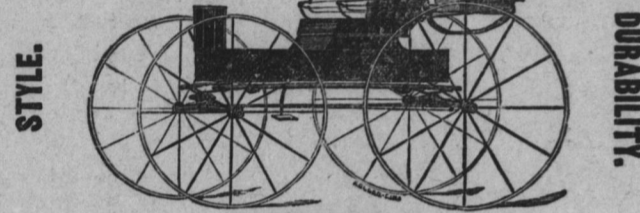
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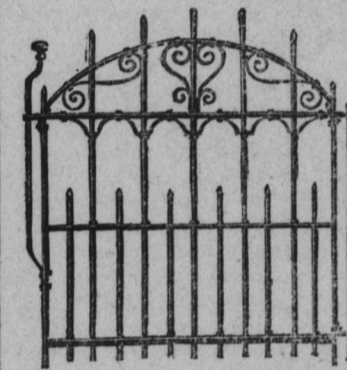


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