HISTORY OF GEN. MORGAN'S ESCAPE FROM PRISON.

A THRILLING DESCRIPTION OF HIS ADVENTURES.

A special correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer, writing from Danville, Va., under date of January 2d, gives the following thrilling account of Gen. Morgan's adventures in making his escape from the Ohio Penitentiary:

As I have not seen any detailed account of Gen John H. Morgan's remarkable escape from the Ohio State Prison, I have determined to send you the following, as received from him. How often does it occur that "truth is stranger than fiction," and to hear the General, in his modest way, repeat all the incidents conducted with his escape, until his safe arrival within our lines, sounds more like a tale of the Arabian Nights than a true record of facts, which, we know, have but recently taken place:

In the first place, the prison is one of the strongest, either in this country or Europe, as I can testify from a personal inspection, and few men would have the courage to attempt to get out from such a place, even if there were no other obstacle than the walls to overcome; but when it is remembered that there were three lines of sentinels to pass, besides bull dogs, we can but admire the determination which could resolve, and the fertility of resource which could successfully accomplish, such a vast undertaking.

On the 26th day of July Gen. Morgan, with others of his officers, was taken to the penitentiary. He was first carried into the "scouring room" and ordered to divest himself of his clothing, each article being carefully searched as he laid it aside. He was next ordered into a large hogshead of water and severely scrubbed by a convict. During all this time he was subjected to the vulgar gaze of a large number of people, who were attracted by curiosity to see the "great chief." This being over he was taken into the "shaving room" and required to take a seat, and then commenced the "barberizing process." While this was going on, Col Cluke and Dr Steel came in and exclaimed in great surprise, "My Heaven, General, what are you having yourself so disfigured for?" He very mildly and pleasantly replied, "Wait a few moments, gentlemen, and you will see;" and sure enough they did. From here he was politely conducted to his room, which consisted of a narrow cell, four and a half feet wide and eight feet long. The grated door was closed, and he now recognized his awful condition: a prisoner in the hands of barbarians—he who had ever been lenient, bordering on weakness; he who had time and again released their officers, allowing them to retain their horses and side-arms, and even furnished their privates with money to defray their way home.—scrubbed, shaved and locked in a felon's cell. Like a true philosopher, equal to any emergency, he met his fate cheerfully, urging his comrades all the time to prudence and fortitude, remarking quietly, "that their time would come; though late, it would surely come." And, thank God, he is out now, and *it will* come. By his prudence and amiable deportment, he so won the good feeling of some of the subaltern attendants that they were disposed to treat him kindly and do small favors for him. After a few days of solitary confinement he and his officers were allowed to walk in the passage way, on which their cells opened.

The cells consisted of two long rows of holes in the wall, one over the other. They opened into a passageway, twelve feet wide and ninety feet long Every morning, at 6 o'clock, they were turned into the passageway and allowed to communicate with each other, and at 4 o'clock were again locked up. Immediately on the outside of the wing of the building in which they were confined, was a wall twenty feet high, separating them from the female department, and on the outside of this department was another wall, thirty five feet high, with a large over-hang upon which the sentinels walked their beat. On the ground, between the inner and the outer wall, a chain of sentinels was distributed, another on the outer wall during the day, but at night were transferred to the ground on the outside. Last, and most difficult to elude, was the sentinel who entered the prison at all times during the day, and at stated intervals of two hours during the night, to see that everything was going on well. When the determination to escape at all hazards was fixed upon, the first thing was to get hold of some implements to work with. So the General got sick and was obliged to have his meals brought to him in his room, and at convenient opportunities his plate went back *minus* a case-knife. When a sufficient number had thus been procured, his brave comrades went to work. Separate holes had to be made, as they were confined in separate cells. Their bedsteads were small iron stools, fastened to the wall with hinges. They could be hooked up or allowed to stand on the floor; and to prevent any suspicion, for several days before any work was attempted, they made it a habit to let them down and sit at their doors and read. Capt. Hines superintended the work, while Gen. Morgan kept watch to divert the attention of the sentinel, whose duty it was to come around during the day and observe if anything was going on. One day this fellow came in while Hokersmith was down under the floor boring away, and, missing him, said "Where is Hokersmith?" The General replied, "He is in my room sick," and immediately pulled a document out of his pocket and said to him: "Here is a memorial I have drawn up to forward to the Government at Washington—what do you think of it?" The fellow, who, perhaps, could not read, being highly flattered at the General's condescension, took it, and very gravely looked at it for several moments before he vouchsafed any reply. Then handing it back, he expressed himself highly pleased with it. In the meantime, Hokersmith had been signaled, and came up, professing to feel "very unwell." This sentinel was the most difficult and dangerous obstacle in their progress, because there was no telling at what time he would enter during the day, and at night he came regularly every two hours to each cell, and inserted a light through the bars of their door to see that they were quietly sleeping; and, frequently after he had completed his rounds, he would slip back in the dark with a pair of india rubber shoes on, to listen at their cells if anything was going on. The General says that he would invariably know of his presence by a certain magnetic shudder which it would produce; but for fear that this acute sensibility might sometimes fail him, he broke up small particles of coal every morning and sprinkled it before the cell door, which would always announce his coming.

Everything was now ready to begin the work. So, about the latter part of October, they commenced to bore. All were busy—one making a rope-ladder by tearing and twisting up strips of bed-tick, another in making bowie knives, and another twisting up towels. They labored perseveringly for several days; and after boring through nine inches of cement, and nine thicknesses of brick placed edgewise, they began to wonder when they should reach the soft earth. Suddenly a brick fell through. What could this mean?—What infernal chamber had they reached? It was immediately entered, and, to their great astonishment and joy, it proved to be an air-chamber extending the whole length of the row of cells. Here was an unexpected interposition in their favor. Hitherto they had been obliged to conceal their rubbish in their bed-ticks, each day burning a proportionate quantity of straw; now they had room enough for all they could dig. They at once commenced to tunnel at right angles with this air chamber, to get through the foundation; and day after day the blocks of granite were removed, and still the work before them seemed interminable.

After thirty-three days of unremitting labor and getting through a granite wall of six feet in thickness, they reached the soil. They tunneled up for some distance, and light began to shine. How glorious was that light! It announced the fulfilment of their labors, and, if Providence would only continue its favor, they would soon be free. This was the morning of the 26th day of November, 1863. The next night, at twelve o'clock, was determined on as the hour at which they would attempt their liberty. Each moment that intervened was filled with dreadful anxiety and suspense, and each time the guard entered increased their apprehensions. The General says he had prayed for rain, but the morning of the 27th dawned bright and beautiful. The evening came, and clouds began to gather. How they prayed for them to increase. If rain should only begin their chances of detection would be greatly lessened. While these thoughts were passing through their minds the keeper entered with a letter for Gen. Morgan. He opened it, and what was his surprise, and I may say *wonder*, to find it to be from a poor Irish woman of his acquaintance, in Kentucky, commencing, "My dear Ginral, I feel certain you are going to try to git out of prison, but for your sake don't you try it, my dear Ginral. You will only be taken prisoner agin, and made to suffer more than you do now." The letter then went on to speak of his kindness to the poor when he lived at Lexington, and concluded by again exhorting him to trust in God, and wait his time. What could this mean? No human being on the outside had been informed of his intention to escape, and yet, just as all things were ready for him to make the attempt, here comes a letter from Winchester, Kentucky, advising him not to "try it." This letter had passed through the examining office of General Mason, and then through the hands of the lower officials. What if it should excite their suspicion and cause them to exercise an increased vigilance. Their situation, however, was desperate. Their fate could not be much worse, and they resolved to go. Nothing now remained to be done but for the General and Colonel Dick Morgan to change cells. The hour approached for them to be locked up. They changed coats and each stood at the other's cell door with his back exposed, and pretended to be engaged in making up their beds. As the turnkey entered, they "*turned in*" and pulled their doors shut Six, eight, ten o'clock came. How each pulse throbbed as they quietly awaited the approach of twelve! It came; the sentinel passed his round—all well. After waiting a few moments to see if he intended to slip back, the signal was given—all quietly slipped down into the air chamber, first stuffing their flannel shirts and placing them in bed as they were accustomed to lie. As they moved quietly along through the dark recess to the terminus where they were to emerge from the earth, the General prepared to light a match. As the lurid glare fell upon their countenances, a scene was presented which can never be forgotten. There were crouched seven brave men, who had resolved to be free. They were armed with bowie knives made out of case knives. Life, in their condition, was scarcely to be desired, and the moment for the desperate chance had arrived. Suppose, as they emerged from the ground, that the dog should give the alarm—they could but die.

But few moments were spent in this kind of apprehension. The hour had arrived and out they came. Fortunately, yes, providentially, the night had suddenly grown dark and rainy; the dogs had retired to their kennel, and the sentinels had taken refuge under shelter. The inner wall, by the aid of the rope ladder, was soon scaled, and now the outer one had to be attempted. Captain Taylor, (who, by the way, is a nephew of old Zack,) being a very active man, by the assistance of his comrades, reached the top of the gate, and was enabled to get the rope over the wall. When the top was gained they found a rope extending all around, which the General immediately cut, as he suspected that it might lead into the warden's room. This turned out to be correct. They then entered the centry box on the wall and changed their clothes, and let themselves down the wall. In sliding down the General skinned his hand very badly, and all were more or less bruised. Once down, they separated—Taylor and Shelton going one way, Hokersmith, Bennett and McGee, another, and Gen. M. and Captain Hines proceeding immediately towards the depot. The General had, by paying fifteen dollars in gold, succeeded in obtaining a paper which informed him of the schedule time of the different roads. The clock struck one, and he knew by hurrying he could reach the down train for Cincinnati. He got there just as the train was moving off. He at once looked out to see if there were any soldiers on board, and, espying a Federal officer, he boldly walked up and took a seat beside him. He remarked to him that, "as the night was damp and chilly, perhaps he would join him in a drink." He did so, and the party soon became very agreeable to each other. The cars in crossing the Scioto have to pass within a short distance of the Penitentiary. As they passed, the officer remarked: "There's the hotel at which Morgan and his officers are spending their leisure." "Yes," replied the General, "and I sincerely hope he will make up his mind to board there during the balance of the war, for he is a great nuisance." When the train reached Zenia it was detained by some accident more than an hour. Imagine his anxiety as soldier after soldier would pass through the train, for fear that when the sentinel had passed his round at two o'clock, their absence might be discovered. The train was due in Cincinnati at six o'clock. This was the hour at which they were turned out of their cells, and of course their escape would be then discovered. In a few moments after it would be known all over the country. The train, having been detained at Zenia, was running very rapidly to make up the time. It was already past six o'clock. The General said to Captain Hines: "It is after six: if we go to the depot we are dead men. Now or never!" They went to the rear and put on breaks. "Jump, Hines!" Off he went, and fell heels over head in the mud. Another severe turn of the break, and the General jumped. He was more successful, and lighted on his feet. There were some soldiers near, who remarked: "What in the h—l do you men mean by jumping off the cars here?" The General replied: "What in the d—l is the use of my going into town when I live here; and besides, what business is it of yours?"

They went immediately to the river. They found a skiff but no oars. Soon a little boy came over, and appeared to be waiting. "What are you waiting for?" said the General. "I am waiting for my load." "What is the price of a load?" "Two dollars." "Well, as we are tired and hungry, we will give you the two dollars, and you can put us over." So, over he took them. "Where does Miss —— live?" "Just a short distance from here." "Will you show me her house?"—"Yes, sir." The house was reached; a fine breakfast was soon obtained, money and a horse furnished. A good woman's prayer bestowed, and off he went. From there forward to Kentucky, everybody vied with each other, as to who should show him the most attention, even to the negroes; and young ladies of refinement begged the honor to cook his meals. He remained in Kentucky some days, feeling perfectly safe, and sending into Louisville for many little things he wanted. Went to Bardstown, and found a Federal regiment had just arrived there, looking for him. Remained here and about, for three or four days, and then struck out for Dixie, sometimes disguising himself as a Government cattle contractor, and buying large lots of cattle; at other times as Quartermaster, until he got to the Tennessee River. Here he found all means of transportation destroyed and the banks strongly guarded; but with the assistance of about thirty others, who had recognized him, and joined him in spite of his remonstrances, he succeeded in making a raft, and he and Captain Hines crossed over. His escort, with heroic self-sacrifice, refused to cross until he was safely over. He then hired a negro to get his horse over, paying him $20 for it. The river was so high that the horse came near drowning, and after more than one hour's struggling with the stream, was pulled out so exhausted as scarcely to be able to stand. The General threw a blanket on him and commenced to walk him, when suddenly, he says, he was seized with a presentiment that he would be attacked, and remarked to Captain Hines, "We will be attacked in twenty minutes," commenced saddling his horse. He had hardly tied his girth when "bang, bang," went the minnie balls. He bounced his horse, and the noble animal, appearing to be inspired with new vigor, bounded off like a deer up the mountain. The last he saw of his poor fellows on the opposite side, they were disappearing up the river bank, fired upon by a whole regiment of Yankees. By this time it was dark, and also raining. He knew that a perfect cordon of pickets would surround the foot of the mountain, and if he remained there until morning he would be lost. So he determined to run the gauntlet at once, and commenced to descend. As he neared the foot, leading his horse, he came almost in personal contact with a picket. His first impulse was to kill him, but finding him asleep, he determined to let him sleep on. He made his way to the house of a Union man that he knew lived near there, and went up and passed himself off as Captain Quartermaster of Hunt's regiment, who was on his way to Athens, Tenn., to procure supplies of sugar and coffee for the Union people of that country. The lady, who appeared to be asleep, while this interview was taking place with her husband, at the mention of sugar and coffee, jumped out of her bed in her night clothes, and said: "Thank God for that, for we aint seen any sale coffee up here for God knows how long!" She was so delighted at the prospect that she made up a fire and cooked them a good supper. Supper being over, the General remarked that he understood some rebels had "tried to cross the river this afternoon." "Yes," said the woman, "but our men killed some un um, and driv the rest back." "Now," says the General, "I know that, but didn't some of them get over. "Yes," was the reply, "but they are on the mountain, and can't get down without being killed, as every road is stopped up" He then said to her, "it is very important for me to get to Athens by to-morrow night, or I may lose that sugar and coffee, and I am afraid to go down any these roads, for fear my own men will kill me." The fear of losing that sugar and coffee brought her again to an accommodating mood, and she replied: "Why Paul can't you show the Captain, through our farm, that road down by the field." The General says, "Of course Paul, you can do it, and as the night is very cold, I will give you $10 (in gold) to help you along." The gold, and the prospect of sugar and coffee was too much for any poor man's nerves, and he yielded, and, getting on a horse, he took them 7 miles to the big road.

From this time forward he had a series of adventures and escapes, all very wonderful, until he got near another river in Tennessee, when he resolved to go up to a house and find the way. Hines went to the house, while the General stood in the road. Hearing a body of cavalry come dashing up behind him, he quietly slipped to one side of the road and it passed by without observing him. They went yelling after Hines, and, poor fellow, he has not been heard of since. How sad to think that he should either be captured or killed after so many brave efforts, not only in his own behalf, but also in that of the General, for, the General says that it is owing chiefly to Hines' enterprise and skill that they made their escape.

When he arrived at the river referred to above, he tried to get over, intending to stop that night with a good Southern man on the other side. He could not get over, and had to remain at the house of a Union man. The next morning he went to the house that he had sought previous, and found the track of the Yankees scarcely cold. They had been there all night, expecting he would come there, and had murdered everybody who had attempted to reach the house without hailing them. In pursuing this brutal course, they had killed three young men, neighbors of this gentleman, and went away leaving their dead bodies on the ground.

After he had crossed Obey's river, and got down into Middle Tennessee, he found it almost impossible to avoid recognition. At the time he passed some poor women, and one of them commenced clapping her hands and said, "Oh, I know who that is; I know who that is!" but catching herself, she stopped short & passed on with her companions

The General says that his escape was made entirely without the assistance from any one on the outside, and, so far as he knows, also without their knowledge of his intention; that the announcement of his arrival at Toronto was one of those fortuitous coincidences that cannot be accounted for; that it assisted him materially, no doubt. In fact, he says that his "wife's prayers" saved him, and, as this is the most agreeable way of explaining it, he is determined to believe it.

The above account may be relied on as correct; and, although much has been left out, yet enough is printed to stamp it as one of the most remarkable escapes in history.

FROM BETTER TO WORSE.—We understand from a gentleman who recently left Norfolk, that sundry individuals who fled from Petersburg to avoid service in the army, and made their way through our lines to Norfolk, have gained nothing by the change. In fact, they have jumped from the "frying pan into the fire," for it is stated that Butler has ordered every man who arrives under such circumstances, to be arrested and placed in the camps of instruction at Newport News, preparatory to a full entrance into the Yankee army. It would be infinitely better for these timid patriots to remain and fight in the Confederate ranks, under any and all circumstances, but since it seems to be pretty well established, that they are to be forced into the Yankee service as soon as they get under Yankee authority, surely, no one can hesitate about the banner under which he will fight.—*Petersburg Express.*

WAR NEWS.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.—Col. Crows, of Morgan's division, attacked the enemy near Dundridge recently, and captured a battery, but it was afterwards recaptured. The enemy were driven back to their entrenchments at Mossy Creek where they remain strongly entrenched. Maj. Ball of Ga., was killed in an engagement on the 29th. Gen. Martin's cavalry attacked a superior force of the enemy at Talbott's Station and after a stubborn fight drove them back 4 miles, when they were reinforced and drove our troops back. Our loss was 120. The railroad is now in running order to Bristol.

☞ The yankee papers contain a dispatch from Gen. Thomas, the yankee commander at Chattanooga, stating that Wheeler's cavalry, on the 26th, captured a Federal wagon train bound to Knoxville, but that he was pursued and defeated. It is not stated what Wheeler did with the wagons and stuff, but we suppose he destroyed them.

ATLANTA, Jan. 2.—Accounts from Dalton are all very nearly to the same purpose. Gen Johnston has quietly assumed command of the forces, and with his usual unostentatious style of procedure is doubtless engaged in all which can be done. He is regarded by every one in and out of service with affectionate confidence as a patriotic man of great abilities.

We have conversed with a gentleman just from Bristol. He informs us that the condition of the campaigns in East Tennessee is prosperous and hopeful. It is considered that Burnside will not be able to hold his position at Knoxville. Our forces have completely cut off his communication with Cumberland Gap, and his troops are on short rations. At Chattanooga the enemy is also reported on allowance, by parties recently out from that vicinity. On the lower Tennessee, bodies of cavalry seem to be organizing for the coming spring campaign. Our scouts in the region of the Tennessee line are said to be well regulated.

FIGHT ON COSBY CREEK.—On Thursday, the 29th, Gen Vance had a brush with some 300 tories, on the head of Cosby Creek, Cocke county, Tenn., some 45 or 50 miles from this place. The enemy were strongly posted, but after a few rounds our men charged them and they fled, leaving three dead, three wounded, all their camp equipage, a number of horses, and a few guns behind. Gen. Vance captured six or eight of the gang.

Gen. Vance's force consisted of a few regulars, and the Henderson Home Guards under Capt. Banning, and the Haywood Home Guards under Maj. Ray. All acted nobly, and when the order to charge was given the Home Guards dashed off with a yell that made the mountains ring. Gen. Vance says veteran troops never acted more gallantly.—*Asheville News.*

FROM VIRGINIA.—On the 1st inst., Mosby captured in Fauqueir county 40 yankees with their horses, arms and equipments. In the fight he lost two killed and three wounded.

Several skirmishes are reported, generally with favorable results to our side. The main armies on each side are quiet in winter quarters.

ABINGDON, Va., Jan. 7.—General W. E. Jones captured on Sunday last, near Jonesville, Gill county, Va., a few over four hundred of the Yankee force that has been investing that county. He captured three pieces of artillery, all their wagons, horses and mules. His loss was five killed and twelve wounded.

FROM CHARLESTON—*One hundred and eighty-first day of the Siege.*—The enemy fired sixteen shells at the city between 10 o'clock Monday night and half-past 5 Tuesday morning, averaging one shell about every half hour. The number of shells fired at the city from the commencement in August last, is about four hundred and fifty.

The Yankees were still at work Tuesday, repairing damages caused by the late storm.—*Charleston Courier, 6th.*

☞ The Confederate cruiser Alabama burnt three yankee vessels on the 16th, off the coast of Java.

PAY DAY.—The high prices at which negroes have hired and houses rented during the past few days, indicate as we think, that people have not sufficiently considered what may be, and most probably will be, the value of money when pay day comes round twelve months hence. It is a matter of comparatively small consequence what price a man pays for a thing he needs, provided he pays cash down and leaves no debt to be provided for a year hence. But an obligation for a thousand dollars, made now to be paid a year hence, may have to be met in a currency worth five times as much as that existing at present. Thus, though the debtor will still have only the thousand dollars to pay, that sum may be harder to obtain then, owing to the scarcity of money, than five thousand dollars are now. Beware of incurring debts now. Rather pay as you go, and pay up every thing that you owe. And then the operations of any currency law or tax law that Congress may enact will have but little power to harm.—*Fayetteville Observer.*

Considering present high prices, it would be a good plan for people to refuse to hire and work more themselves.

DISCONTINUED.—We have been requested to give notice that the Sunday trains over the Western N. C. Railroad have been discontinued.—*Statesville Express.*

Your Bonds are Ready.

Endorse your names across the backs of your Certificates, call at my office, in the Court House, in Charlotte, and receipt me for your Confederatet States Bonds, Sevens and Eights.

A. C. WILLIAMSON, C. S. D.

Dec 29, 1863 3t

Dividend No. 20.

Bank of Charlotte, N. C.,
December 23, 1863.

The Board of Directors of this Bank having declared a semi-annual Dividend of Two Dollars and Fifty cents ($2 50) per Share, and also an extra dividend of Five Dollars ($5) per Share, the same will be paid to Stockholders or order, in Confederate States Treasury Notes, on and after Wednesday the 6th day of January, 1864. Stockholders are requested to draw their dividends promptly.

JNO. J. BLACKWOOD, President.

Dec 29, 1863 4t

Nineteenth Dividend.

CHARLOTTE & S. C. RAILROAD COMPANY,
Treasurer's Office, Columbia, Dec. 12, 1863.

The Directors having declared a semi-annual dividend of Twelve Dollars per Share in Confederate States Treasury notes, the same will be paid on and after the 20th inst. Stockholders in Fairfield, Chester and York Districts and North Carolina, will be paid at Winnsboro, Chester and Charlotte, as heretofore.

Parties who have not had settlements for Stock Dividend of May, 1863, should do so at once.

C. BOUKNIGHT,
Secretary and Treasurer.

December 29, 1863 1m

Announcement.

We, as soldiers, respectfully announce THOMAS R. MAGILL as a candidate for the House of Commons for Union county, at our next regular election in Aug. next, and as such will be voted for by

MANY SOLDIERS IN THE ARMY.

December 22, 1863 tepd

For the Western Democrat.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

We give below a list of the Officers and Managers of the above named society, and also some words of address by the Executive Committee to the Managers. We feel a good degree of confidence that the people of this county will sustain their former character for liberality in giving to the worthy object of the society:

OFFICERS—Dr. E. Nye Hutchison, President; Rev. J. C. Chalmers, 1st Vice President; Rev. C. H. Pritchard, 2d Vice President; M. D. Johnston, Corresponding Secretary; J. M. Hutchison, Recording Secretary and Treasurer.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

In the Methodist Episcopal Churches.

Charlotte Station—Rev. C. H. Pritchard, Wm. J. Yates and S. L. Riddle.
Sandy Ridge—Rev. L. Scarboro, J. H. Morrison.
Fairview—Thomas Squires, Daniel Wentz.
New Hope—Franklin Stillwell, Joab Campbell.
Mill Grove—Eli Stewart, Dawson Byram.
Hickory Grove—Wm Carter, G E Teter.
Bethesda—J A Wallace, Fletcher Moore.
Mount Zion—Wm Gillespie, Allison Black.
Trinity—James Martin, Wm Kerr.
Dows—Robert McGee, Alfred Hoover.
Big Spring—N B Taylor, Wilson Montgomery.
Harrison's Church—Rev J Finger, S A Davis, J F N Davidson.
Hebron—Sampson Wolfe, Wm Thrower.

In the Methodist Protestant Churches.

Pleasant Hill—Rev J W Naylor, S Newell, D. M Lee.
Antioch—Wm Warwick, Henry Query.
Tabernacle—J R Winchester, Wm Simpson.
Mount Moriah—B Brantley, C Braswell.
Brown's Hill—Michael Garman, James Allen.

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

St. Mark's Evang. Lutheran Church—Rev G D Bernheim, Jacob Duls, John Kuck.

In the Baptist Church.

Charlotte—Rev R H Griffith, W Boyd, S P Smith.

In the Protestant Episcopal Church.

Charlotte—Rev G M Everhardt, John Wilkes, Col W A Williams.

In the Associate Reformed Churches.

Steel Creek—Rev J C Chalmers, Alex Grier, S W Reid.
Back Creek—Rev Isaac G McLaughlin, Robt B Cochran, Milton Hunter.
Prosperity—Rev R Ranson, James Bigham, Abner Hunter, Esq.
Gilead—Ezekiel Alexander, R B Hunter.
Sardis—Rev John Hunter, Lorenzo Hunter, S C Boyce.

In the Presbyterian Churches.

Steel Creek—Rev J C Alexander, Thos B Price, A G Neel.
Pleasant Hill—A R Erwin, D H Hart.
Sugar Creek—Rev R H Lafferty, Ira Parks, Andrew McNeely.
Philadelphia—Rev Wm M McDonald, Wm Maxwell, Wm Beaver.
Providence—Rev R Z Johnston, E C Kuykendall, Wm Rea.
Sharon—C T Alexander, T Neely Alexander.
Mallard Creek—Rev W S Pharr, Wm Hutchison, J A Query.
Ramah—Rev T E Davis, T H Hamilton, Wm B Parks.
Davidson College—Rev J L Kirkpatrick, Rev E F Rockwell, T W Sparrow.
Bethel—Rev T E Davis, D A Caldwell, William Patterson.
Hopewell—Rev S C Pharr, D D., A B Davidson, T M Kerns.
Paw Creek—Rev R Burwell, Thos T Johnston, Wm Cathey.
Charlotte—Rev A Sinclair, Francis Scarr, Dr. Wm J Hayes.

The next meeting of the Society will be held at Providence Church on the 1st Saturday in May, 1864, and will be opened with an address by Rev J L Kirkpatrick, D. D., of Davidson College.

Address of the Executive Committee to the Managers.

Dear Brethren: You have been appointed for the present year Managers of the Bible Society of Mecklenburg county to act in your respective communities, in the belief that you would take an active part in promoting its interests and carrying out the object of the Society. It was believed that you would act with at least as much efficiency as any others. We hope you will not be satisfied with being merely nominal officers, but that you will be active and faithful friends of the Bible cause, conversing with the people on the subject of bible distribution and interesting their minds in it. It is expected that you will, in the course of this winter, take up collections in your Churches, and that besides private conversation at other times you will have the people addressed on the days of collection, either by one or more of yourselves or some other suitable person, showing the importance of the work and its claims on them. It is desired that the money be handed to J M Hutchison, the Treasurer, against the 1st of May, that he may make a report at the annual meeting in that month. Enquire into destitutions and report to the officers or the Society. It is desirable that you will attend as far as practicable the annual meetings of the Society, to make and hear short reports of your labors and success in the work and of any incidents calculated to throw light upon or create interest in it. The feelings of our people are, we believe, as easily excited in behalf of a good cause as those of almost any other, if the agents will lay the subject before them properly; there is then a work for you to do—an important work. The success of our Society depends upon you: the moral and dearest interests of our fellow men depend, under God, much upon your efforts! Oh, then, be faithful, be energetic! It is our duty to aim at disseminating our Heavenly Master's word to the ends of the earth. Work then in this His vineyard as faithful servants and whatsoever is right He will give you.

M. D. JOHNSTON,
Corresponding Secretary.

For the Western Democrat.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

We left Charlotte on the 9th ult., and after a rather crowded but otherwise pleasant ride over the railroads, we reached the pleasant, busy, bustling town of Sumter, where we found the South Carolina Conference holding its annual session. The preachers and strangers brought together by the occasion taxed the liberality and hospitality of the citizens to rather an unusual extent, but with open doors and hands and hearts they met the occasion, and I am happy to say that their ample resources were equal to the emergency. As this was my first visit, I passed about with my eyes open and took notes of what I saw and heard, but with no intent at the time of printing them. But as a small tribute to the kindness of those among whom my lot was cast for the time, I have seen proper to pen these few jottings by the way of an occasional traveler.

There are a great many worse places than Sumter, and in our future perigrinations we shall find it very difficult to pass this beautiful town of sand and shade trees without stopping. The attendance of the preachers was very large, considering the times and the number that are absent as chaplains in the army. The body contains a large amount of preaching talent, and was presided over with christian dignity and marked ability by that able, eloquent and learned divine, Bishop Pierce. His sermon on Sunday on the state of the country was one of the most able and eloquent pulpit efforts it has ever been our pleasure to listen to. The pulpits of most of the churches were occupied by members of the Conference, and sermons of searching power, couched in words that burn, were delivered to crowded and attentive congregations. The venerable Lovick Pierce, father of the Bishop, was present and addressed the Conference with great force and effect, and was responded to in most eloquent and appropriate terms by Drs. Smith and Sehon. It was an affecting sight to see these zealous and faithful ministers of the Most High coming up from their various charges to give an account of their stewardship, and receive their appointments for another year's labor. We recognized among the preachers the familiar face of many an old acquaintance, under whose ministry we had sat in former days, and we are happy to say that our recent visit enabled us to add several new ones to the list. We bid adieu to Sumter with a heart alive with kind and sympathetic emotions, awakened by the hearty welcome and kind treatment of the many friends we met. And in traversing the chequred path of light and shade, of calm and storm, of smiles and tears that may yet lie before us, fond memory will often carry us back to the pleasant homes and cheerful firesides of those who extended to us, for the few short days of our sojourn, the friendly hand of a generous and unstinted liberality. On our return we had an opportunity of testing the courtesy and accommodating dispositions of some of the officers of the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad, and of the South Carolina Railroad company, and we are happy to state that we found them fully up to schedule time in every particular. No lady need be under any apprehensions in traveling unattended on either of these roads. Our stay at Kingsville was longer than we could have wished, unless the accommodations had been better. That place has had its day, and is now living on the shadowy recollections of its former reputation. On reaching the depot at Columbia we took a coach and four, and for the moderate sum of two dollars in Confederate currency, we were whirled away as fast as fat horses (no wonder) could carry us to the sheltering wings of Nickerson's stately mansion, where a comfortable room and a hot breakfast awaited us, and in that we were not peculiar, for everybody (almost) always stop at Nickerson's, for everybody that ever tried him know him to be the prince of landlords, and that is saying enough for the reputation of one man, for a man must be something more than a man who can keep a hotel these times and please everybody. Nickerson can do it and does do it. But a ride on the Charlotte road of one hundred miles still lay between us and home, but we had tried that road and its officers so often before that the trip only excited pleasing emotions. The President of this road is a man who knows his duty and dares to do it, and his subordinates are influenced by his example. Thanks to these accommodating officers and their rolling stock, we can now sing "home again" with the spirit and the understanding varied by the chorus of the "Old North State forever." On our way home we had the pleasure of conversing and shaking hands with the noted General Morgan. R. R. H.

FOR RENT.

On Tuesday the 19th of January next, 1864, I will rent out at the Court House in Rockingham, Richmond county, a Plantation on the Pedee River, known as the Grassy Island, on which is situated a fine flour and corn Mill, a valuable shad Fishery, with about a hundred and sixty acres of cleared land, one-half of which is river bottom, in a high state of cultivation, and on which are two comfortable buildings and all the necessary out-houses.

Terms cash, or six months credit with bond and security.

J. W. ROPER.

Dec 29, 1863.

Salt! Salt! Salt!

We will exchange Virginia Salt for Pork, on as good terms as any body.

YOUNG, WRISTON & ORR.

December 1, 1863 tf

LAND SALE IN EQUITY.

In conformity to a decree of the Court of Equity of Mecklenburg county, made at Fall Term, 1863, in the matter of Hugh M Houston and wife, and others, for the purpose of making partition of the proceeds of sale between the petitioners, I will expose to public sale to the highest bidder, executing bond with approved security, at the public square in Charlotte, on the 2d Monday in January, 1864, on a credit of twelve months, with interest from sale, except five per cent. cash to pay costs, the Tract of Land in the pleadings mentioned, situated on the waters of Four Mile Creek, adjoining the lands of W P Houston, A A Houston, J M Stuart and others.

Dec 1, 1863 A C WILLIAMSON, C. M. E.

EQUITY SLAVE SALE.

In obedience to a decree of the Court of Equity of Mecklenburg county, made at Fall Term, 1863, in the matter of T B McKee, Administrator of Robert Walker, I will re-open the biddings of sale of the slave Aaron, in the pleadings mentioned, at public vendue, at the public square in Charlotte, on the 2d Monday of January, 1864, starting at the last bid of sixteen hundred and fifty dollars ($1,650). The terms will be twelve months credit, except five per cent. cash to pay costs, the purchaser giving bond and good security for the purchase money.

Dec 1, 1863 A C WILLIAMSON, C. M. E.

EQUITY SALE OF A SLAVE.

By virtue of a decree of the Court of Equity of Mecklenburg county, made at Fall Term, 1863, in the matter of B W Alexander, Guardian of Anne Alexander and others, I will expose to public sale, and sell to the highest bidder, at the public square in Charlotte, on the 2d Monday in January, 1864, the slave Charlotte, in the pleadings mentioned, upon a credit of 12 months, with interest from sale, except five per cent. cash to pay costs, the purchaser executing bond with good security for the purchase money.

Dec 1, 1863 A C WILLIAMSON, C. M. E.

EQUITY LAND SALE.

The Land of the late Hiram C. Brawley, deceased, will be re-sold at the public square in Charlotte, on the second Monday in January, 1864, on a credit of six months. It will be started on the last bid of $2,337 and sold to the highest bidder. There are 174 acres in the tract. It adjoins the lands of J. P. Ross, Wm. Means, and lies near to town Bond and good security required of the purchaser. Four per cent. cash will be required to pay costs.

Nov 17, 1863. ts A. C. WILLIAMSON, C. M. E.

NOTICE.

Persons having claims against Harbert Stowe's estate are hereby notified that the estate is going to be settled up as early as practicable after January Court, and they are hereby required to present them for payment or otherwise this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. H D STOWE, Adm'r.

Dec 8, 1863 5t pd

WANTED,

A single white man, over conscript age, to assist on a Plantation and take charge of 5 or 6 hands. Apply at this Office.

December 8, 1863.

STRAY COW.

Strayed from my place in Philadelphia neighborhood, on the 14th November, a Cow and a calf. The cow is red with a white face and a small bell on—the calf is also red but no other mark recollected. A liberal reward will be paid for the delivery of the cattle to me, or confined so that I can get them.

Dec 8, 1863—3tpd J. H. BARNHILL.

LINCOLNTON FEMALE SEMINARY,

LINCOLNTON, N. C.

THE SPRING SESSION, 1864, will commence on Monday, February 1st, and continue twenty weeks. I have secured the services of the same corps of teachers as heretofore.

RATES.—Regular Tuition, from $10 to $30; Piano Lessons, $30; Use of Piano, $5.

BOARD.—I will take a limited number of pupils to board with me, and will charge them simply what it costs to board them. Pupils, however, must furnish their own towels, candles and toilet soap. I make this arrangement from the impossibility of forejelling what charge for board would be fair to both parties.

Each boarding pupil will pay $200 in advance—the balance, if any, at the close of the Session.

A liberal patronage is respectfully solicited.

For further information, address

S. LANDER, A. M., Principal.

Dec 8, 1863 6t pd