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Country, God and Truth.

LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JULY 29, 1909

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CHOICE OF PUNISHMENTS.

The Request of the Robeson County Man Deserving of More Than Passing Notice.

The request of the Robeson county young man convicted of larceny and sentenced to three years on the county roads that his sentence be changed to five years in the penitentiary is deserving of more than passing notice. There may have been other reasons for his desiring the change, but we surmise he made the request believing that five years in the State's prison would be lighter punishment than three years on the county roads, and that it would be the preference of the two, both as to treatment and as to mental service. On one or two occasions we have heard prisoners or their counsel ask for similar consideration at the hands of the court.

There is evidently something back of such requests as these. Is it true that sentences to the county roads, intended to be less severe punishment than imprisonment in the penitentiary, are actually regarded as much more harsh? If not, why such requests? We know that all white men have a perfect horror of service upon the highways of the county. They may dread the penitentiary but it seems not to such a great extent. When a man is sent to the State's prison he goes where few people who know him will see him. It is going into a kind of seclusion in which his crime and himself are forgotten by others. The work he does is nothing more than some usual vocation of the work-a-day world. On the other hand, a man sentenced to the chain gang of his county must usually serve with a crowd of negroes in one of the most public places, where people whom he knows are seen by him and see him frequently. The work is of the most degrading character. The result is, his manhood is crushed and he comes forth a hardened criminal.

It is not our purpose to condemn the system in use in this and many other counties of work-convicts on the county roads; we only wish to enquire if the punishment in many cases is not too great. When a man is convicted of a felony a sentence to the county roads is usually well deserved, but in cases of petty misdemeanors it is humane to give the defendant such a sentence? Suppose a man comes into court, is convicted of carrying weapons concealed about his person, or of simple assault, or some other offense of like degree. If he cannot pay a fine he is rushed off to the roads to work out the fine and costs or serve a sentence. Only a few days ago in Municipal Court a man was before the judge for being drunk and down. He had done no one any harm, he had never been in court before, but he could not pay his fine and costs—he had been out of work for several weeks—and he was sent along to shovel dirt on the highways. The court is not to be blamed; it is our system.

It seems to us that there ought to be some other means provided for the punishment of those who have committed petty crimes for the first time. Why could not the county have some kind of workshop where such criminals could be placed at work? A little thought and agitation will no doubt suggest an even better scheme. The present plan will prevail just as long as public sentiment allows it, and no longer. If work on the county roads is regarded by convicts and others as more severe and the treatment there worse than at the penitentiary, then why not have those convicted of felonies work on the county roads and those convicted of misdemeanors work in the State penitentiary.

A Startling State of Affairs.

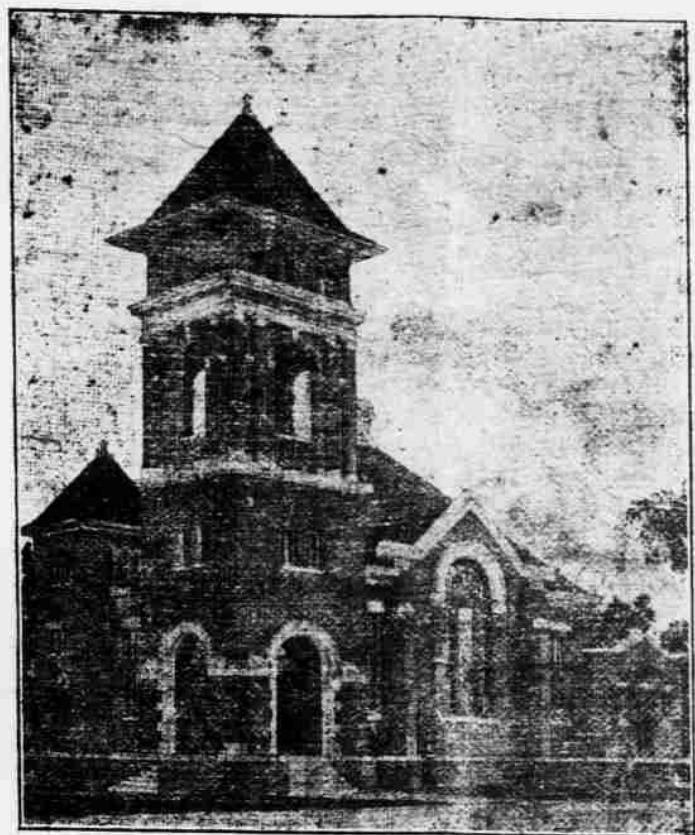
In a conversation with Dr. W. T. Pate and Mr. L. M. Blue, Monday, we were given the following startling information:

In one day this spring Mr. Blue visited some of the schools of the county, and found the attendance as follows: First school visited, a white school, with 13 students in attendance, and the corresponding colored school with 106 students in attendance; the next white school had 22 scholars in attendance, and the colored school 146; the colored children being taught in sections, some in the morning and some in the afternoon; the next white school had 23 students and the colored school 116; the following white school showed up with 25 and the colored school with 150; the last white school visited that day had 50 students, and the school for colored 350. Mind you, this is Scotland county, and that in the year of Our Lord One Thousand, Nine Hundred and Nine.

A Night Rider's Raid.
The worst night riders are camels, croton oil or aloe pills. They raid your bed to rob you of rest. Not so with Dr. King's New Life Pills. They never distress or inconvenience, but always cleanse the system, curing colds, headache, constipation, malaria, etc. at all druggists.

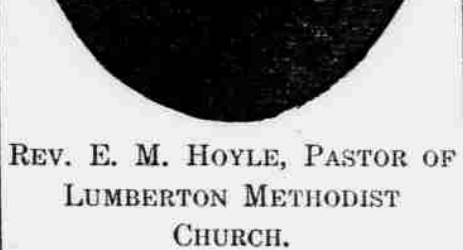
6 or 8 doses "666" will cure any case of Chills and Fever. Price 25c. 12-25

Lumberton's New Methodist Church.



The above is a cut of the new Methodist church to be erected in Lumberton on the corner of Eighth and Chestnut streets. Work will probably begin next week. The church is to be erected of brick with handsome stone and terra cotta trimmings. The large tower to the front contains the main entrance to the auditorium. The small door on the opposite corner from the large tower enters into the ladies' parlor, and from thence to the choir which will be situated to the left of the pulpit. Just behind the pulpit will be the pastors study, with an independent entrance to the side. Immediately down the line from the pastors study to the right of a small hall-way will be two lavatories, one for the infant class room and the other for pastors study. To the left of this hall-way will be a little pantry which may be used for a kitchen when needed. Beyond the pantry and lavatories appears the infant class-room, which will be sufficiently large for a dining-room when desired. Behind the infant class-room, and just in the point of the semi-circle the Bible class-room is situated. Both these may be thrown together and all opened into the main Sunday School room by means of folding doors.

The Sunday School room begins at the small tower on the side, which contains the entrance to it. From this tower the Sunday School room recedes in a semi-circle, thus permitting eight of the class-rooms to face the superintendent's desk. Four of these circular rooms are on the first floor and four in the balcony. The Baraca class-room is situated in the small tower immediately above entrance. The superintendent's desk will be along side of the pulpit—folding doors separating them.



REV. E. M. HOYLE, PASTOR OF LUMBERTON METHODIST CHURCH.

GOOD FARMING.

One Hundred Bushels of Corn to Acre and Two Bales of Cotton.

Mr. J. A. Guy has just returned from Stedman, where he went, like many others are doing, to look at the wonderful corn and cotton crop Mr. Jeff D. Sessoms is raising. Mr. Guy says that Mr. Sessoms will average 100 bushels of corn to the acre and two bales of cotton to the acre. He is trying intense farming and is certainly making a great success at it. The corn is planted in 5 foot rows, 8 inches in the drill and the stalks average four ears apiece. The corn is now ready for pulling. The cotton is planted 5 feet apart, 2 1/2 feet in the drill and is now waist-high.

The Salt Habit.

One who holds table salt as essential should try eating the skins of all vegetables and fruits and the whole cereals, and see whether the craving for salt does not grow less as one perseveres. Vegetables cooked "in their jackets" do not require salt. The organic salts are in the skins. There is the iron to make red blood and rosy cheeks, even as it makes red cheeks of the apple; there is enamel to protect the teeth, even as the tender meat of the fruit is protected; there are the bone and brain builders in correct and available form—From August Physical Culture.

Announcement has been made at the State Department of Education that the annual meeting of the North Carolina Association of County Superintendents of Public Schools will be held August 31 to September 3.

Tortured on a Horse.

"For ten years I couldn't ride a horse without being in torture from piles," writes L. S. Napier, of Rogers, Ky. "When all doctors and other remedies failed, Bucklen's Salve cured me." Infalible for Piles, burns, scalds, cuts, boils, Fever-sores, Eczema, Salt rheum, Corns. 25c. guaranteed by all druggists.

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VERMONT AND NEGRO TROOPS.

Our Northern Friends Have Acted as Georgians or Texans Would Have Done.

Baltimore Sun.
Our northern friends do love the colored brother—when he is a thousand miles away; and they do love to continually preach to the South the beauty of blacks and whites dwelling together in unity and brotherhood. From the time of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" down to the Booker Washington soiree they have besought the nation to take the persecuted blacks to its broad bosom and to punish the wicked whites who put the poor negro into "Jim Crow" cars, and will not eat at the same table with him and refuse to allow him to run the Government. This is their favorite subject of philanthropy, denunciation, admonishment, advice and tears; and, as they know so little about it, and it touches them on no vital particular, they can indulge in unlimited hysterics.

But when they begin to come in contact with the negro they quickly change their tune. It grieves the observer to note that the most implacable negro-haters are the Northerners who have gone South to live, and who regard the faultless negro as ignorant, shiftless and generally unbearable. And it is somewhat the same way when the colored man goes North.

Before the Civil War, Burlington, Vt., was one of the strongholds of abolition sentiment, and since that time it has been one of the centers of advice to the South as to how to deal with the negro problem. It was shocked when the dear colored troops were persecuted at Brownsville, Texas, where the white people rudely objected to the negro soldiers shooting their wives and children and burning the homes of the whites. If there was any post outside of Boston, Mass., where the negro was loved, you would think it would be Burlington; Vt. So President Taft orders the negro regiment, the Tenth Cavalry, to Fort Ethan Allen, the army post near Burlington. You would have thought the 1,200 black troopers, who were the fellows of the Brownsville martyrs, would have been received with open arms. You would have thought the bands would have met them at the station, the leading citizens have delivered addresses of welcome, and every home would be thrown open to the conquering heroes.

But, to our painful surprise, the Vermonters have acted very much as Georgians or Texans would have acted under the same conditions. White residents have refused to eat in restaurants where the negro troopers are served. White patrons of the trolley cars have demanded that the negroes be put in separate cars very like unto the "Jim Crow" variety that is so popular in the benighted South.

This is the first time the colored troops have been stationed in New England, the section which is the patron of the negro, the self-constituted guardian and "next friend." How does New England like it?

The Burlington Free Press, a very conservative newspaper, says: If the Government officials, after their trouble with Brownsville and other posts, thought the extreme North would make no objection to the presence of so large a body of negroes, they were in error. A Southern town could hardly be more up in arms than this city and Winooski are today.

Can we believe that the pure and altogether righteous people of New England have the same passions and prejudices as the reprehensible and sinful residents of the benighted South? Can they be losing their intense love for the martyr negro? Perhaps, after all, President Taft would do well to take no more chances, but send the three regiments of colored soldiers direct to Boston, where they would be certain to be greeted as persecuted brothers, and any one who dared to interfere with such pleasant little pastimes as getting drunk and shooting up the town would be arrested and properly punished.

The third annual convention of the North Carolina postmasters will be held in Raleigh September 29 and 30.

In Wake Superior Court last week Judge W. R. Allen held that the \$500,000 bond issue authorized by the last Legislature for the enlargement of the State hospital is valid. The case will now go to the Supreme Court.

Life 100,000 Years Ago.

Scientists have found in a cave in Switzerland bones of men, who lived 100,000 years ago, when life was constant danger from wild beasts. To-day the danger, as shown by a. w. brown, of Alexander, Me., is largely from deadly disease. "If it had not been for Dr. King's New Discovery, which cured me, I could not have lived," he writes, "suffering as I did from a severe lung trouble, Lungs, colds, obstinate coughs, and prevalent pneumonia, the best medicine on earth. 50c and \$1.00. Guaranteed by all druggists. Trial bottle free.

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