

FULLER'S GLEANER

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., MARCH 5, 1895

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POET OF FIRE.

1895 ASHEVILLE.

We look at the GLEANER, and
 ready wit,
 Which downfalls Nye to simply
 quit,
 But ah, at last with ancient of
 pride,
 Comes The Hotel Reporter to
 sit by our side,
 With contents and squibs, so won-
 derfully given,
 As to her leader? he is far from
 heaven,
 Night of the fire, with glorious at-
 ture,
 Editor Nat Rogers came to put
 out the fire,
 From the roof of a house, to the
 basement below,
 We could not have two Editors
 on top to blow,
 The firemen fought duty with in-
 structions here given
 From the voice of Nat Rogers,
 could be heard in heaven:
 "Put out the life line, hold on to
 the hose,
 It is fearfully cold and we need
 some warm clothes."
 The yells and howls and stamping
 of feet,
 When looking down earthward
 it was covered with sleet,
 The ice has frozen and where is
 my hat,
 Oh! don't stop now, says Rogers
 for that,
 Take hold of that hose and stop
 picking your nose and wig-
 gling your toes,
 This grand, eloquent order the
 laborer refuses,
 And quietly goes off and indulges
 in boozes.
 Order was given from some one
 on top,
 When seeing Nat Rogers on the
 roof of the shop,
 The water was powerful and
 sounded like a brass band,
 And froze to the nozzle like
 water on a tomato can,
 Some one on a mountain was an-
 noyed at the expense
 And afraid of damage outside
 the fence,
 Shut off the mid-stream while in
 terror at end,
 For the fire was burning for
 kingdom of men,

Throw out the life line, and gang
 plank, pour on water,
 I into the hose cart and save the
 business a quarter,
 Cheers went up hoarsely and cold
 through the air,
 The water has been stopped and
 this is not fair,
 The firemen worked and citizens
 too,
 But as for the labor that Rogers
 went through,
 After extinguishing the fire and
 thought he did well,
 Came down to thank the citizens
 for the artesian well

D. E.

FIRE IN ASHEVILLE, FEB. 9, 1895.

While the winds of remarkable
 capability were raging on this aw-
 ful night of expense and our hero-
 ic firemen and our citizens were
 called out of warm comforts and
 resting reposed to the blasted
 winds and icy feet were aroused
 by the mournful sound of the fire.
 It was with exposure and hot
 drinks of coffee and liquor in
 which the men did work rapidly
 and we give them the victory that
 our city was not more damaged
 than it was and the loss of life
 was saved by heroic efforts upon
 men who did their duty and save
 themselves.
 The chief cause of any fire in
 the minds of the best of men that
 there is not one who can tell how
 they left things before they went
 home to be in safety till morning.
 Fires can be excluded by an un-
 known hand who did not wish to
 tell which should have been done
 by the last man at his office when
 left by himself to lock the door
 and has the key. The fire occurred
 at 11 o'clock on the night of Feb.
 9, 1895, in the harness room of J.
 M. Alexander. Could we but ask
 how the room was left when the
 man went. Was it in safety or
 dangerous. If the latter why not
 remove all danger before closing
 its doors. The answer is we
 thought everything all right and
 wanted to get home as it was cold
 and a good fire at home would be
 a comfort to sit by before going to
 bed. Ah! it is a little thing to
 live on uncertainty but it is a big

thing when our stores are on
 fire and we call it accidentally.
 Our Editor had just been made
 surprised when told upon that
 night. It would be nice to have a
 fire, and why he asked, Oh! to
 see what effect it would have. I
 guess we found it that it better
 not have been said.

The clothing of the heroes who
 fought fire were frozen by the wa-
 ter while at work and no doubt as
 brave as they were they lost their
 ability to do much. Some wore
 hatless and feetless and great icicles
 hung on their beard and mustache
 and clothing in great shape. Their
 hair was also matted, but if it was
 as bald like our Editor's, I don't
 think it would have hung on their
 heads. Men cried like children
 under the situation and was so
 cold and hungry that it was a
 sight to see them, whisky and cof-
 fee was in demand, but all right
 while working, but when they
 went home the reaction on the
 system was so overpowering they
 were made sicker than had they
 remained out and walked it off,
 which is a certain cure for any in-
 toxicating drinks, recommended
 by the expert Specialist in our
 county. One remarkable idea
 stated, a man thought he lost his
 hat and was so surprised when he
 found it in his hand all the time.
 Why should he have removed his
 hat on such a night as that was is
 a little surprising to an Editor.
 Yet in case of fire it is not to be
 wondered at for life is more im-
 portant than personal property at
 such times and as long as no seri-
 ous lives were lost we can look at
 the matter in a joking way.

The water from the hose was
 that mad it would even freeze
 when thrown in the building, yet it
 relieved some places and the inner
 walls no doubt was soon frozen
 ice was seen. The fire was expec-
 ted to enter the hotel and other
 places of trade, but it was some-
 what checked off by heroic men
 who were there on the moment.

Some citizens did lose by dam-
 age of water upon their stock but
 everywhere the water went it froze
 as everything was so cold and not
 unlike an ice-house. One hotel
 kept by a Mr. McInturff lost all

his furniture. The lives of the
 people were safe and got out in
 time. The second story of the
 bank was gutted and the fire could
 not do much there. Total loss at
 \$50,000

FLORA BATSON.

The great singer of the world
 appeared in the city of Asheville,
 N. C., Feb. 13, 14 and 15, and
 gave one of the grandest concerts
 in the colored race which our eyes
 ever beheld. The Editor of this
 paper was wonderfully impressed
 by her ease of care quality, that
 he invited help to explain appreci-
 ations of the great nightingale for
 her wonderful efforts upon the
 part of that heavenly music which
 was so pleasing.

Next to Miss Batson that good
 quality of voice of Mrs. A. G.
 Baker with a voice rich and dis-
 tinct and great deal of expression
 while rolling out the words. If
 Miss Batson had a little more ex-
 pression as she gave good
 notes and wonderful memory
 which startled the Editor how she
 does remember words of so diffi-
 cult music from so many deep se-
 lections that even an ordinary
 white person could not remember
 as a rule, but the D. E. was very
 much taken in the way she re-
 membered so well and sung the
 way she did or even to know just
 when to come in all chords and
 flats and sharps from the notes of
 the piano.

The general appearance of the
 audience was well behaved and
 very quiet and no noise or bad
 conduct shown which sometimes
 is sure in places of this kind to be
 seen.

Colored people are of a different
 class than white and people go
 more for a curiosity than bad
 conduct, yet none was seen here
 and having gone to all there was
 a general appreciation all over.
 The general effort of the play was
 very creditable and I'll go every
 time to hear Flora Batson sing
 when convenient.

As for Mrs. Baker she was won-
 derful and her little head and throat
 was sweet and clear and she needs
 to be highly complimented as for
 the others was also well done
 and the general effort was very
 creditable. With thanks to all, I
 remain the D. E. of FULLER'S
 GLEANER.