THE MESSENGER

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Corresponding Editors.

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Short correspondence of interat to the reneral public is solicited, but don't be dis-appointed if you fail to see your production in our columns. We are not responsible for the views of correspondents. Anonymous communications go to the waste basket.

WRONG DAT ..

By some mishap, we give the wrong date on our outside ; it is all founded on it, for the reason that it right, though, the figures mean no applies the same punishment to both harm.

The charter for street cars in 'our city has been granted.

Lieut. Flipper who joined the Mexican army some time ago is now a Brigadier.

Several civil rights cases are pending in the Supreme Court of unprofitable, yet, nevertheless, the United States. Read our Washington letter on them.

FALSE ARREST.

Last Monday a colored woman was brought up from Mathews, supposed to be the one who robbed a trunk last week. Now, what evidence was against this woman we for our people to come to a decisive do not know, but it does seem to us very hard and humiliating for one to be snatched up and hauled around the great law of human justice dein this manner when innocent, then mands it. There is a growing ten- Bread, Oakes, Pies and have no redress. We believe in dency on the part of our young men punishing the guilty, but at the same time the innocent should be protected. There is somewhere a of negro youth to instill in them careless, a looseness. We believe in principles of manliness, carnestness seeing the law take its full scope. Let no guilty man escape, neitherpunish and disgrace the innocent.

CUR OPERA HOUSE.

A longing for a first class play tor of the body politic. forced us to go to the Opera House on last Monday night. There we the house small.

such a place.

house before the opening of next season. We do not wish to push ourselves upon our good white friends. We only want good accommodatios apart from noisy, bad boys and bad women, and we are willing to pay for the same.

We have witnessed many fine plays in northern and western cities by McCullough, Barrett and others and would be pleased to advise all pleasure seekers among our people to attend them here at home for their amusement and instruction.

We hope the management of our opera house will fix up and give us some good chairs in some part of this honse, and we beleive they will.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

For the MESSENGER. A rather novel decision involving the color line has just been rendered in the Supreme Court of the United States is the case of Toney Pace against the State of Alabama, in which it appears that the plaintiff in error violated the State law by living in sexual relations with a white woman. The court holds that the law of Alabama prohibiting miscegenation, is not in conflict with the Fourtcenth Amendment. or with the Civil Rights legislatior offenders, the white and the black without discrimination. This decis-

ion has called into play many an in credulous smile, as its intent and meaning are clear to every fair minded man. Any attempt, howev er, to controvert the action of the highest tribunal of the America government would be fruitless and there can be no doubt as to the voice of the six million of blacks on the absolute fairness of this decision. There are other cases before the Supreme court of incalcuable moment, appertaining to the rights and privileges of the American Negro, the outcome of which is extremely doubtful. It is high time stand upon this question. The times demand it, society demands it, towards independenc of thought and action and it behooves every father and frugality; to crush out the prevalent spirit of fawning and sycophancy ; to educate them up to a full sense of their being, their obligations, their significance as a fac-It is a deplorable tact that the old men who fought with the most

witnessed "Virginius" by Frederick unselfish devotion in that dark Warde. The play was good, but struggle for liberty, are to day most tardy to secure any effert looking to It is a source of regret to see that the triumph of the great principles so many of onr better class of citi- which prompted our civil strife, zens are prevented from going to and look on with fear and tremboperas on account of their color. ling while the intelligence and man-Free American citizens and many hood of their younger brethren are of them free born, educated and as crying out for justice, for right, and refined as they may be, they are unquestioned citizenship. Oh, say compelled to take back seats or they, you are too fast, too previous, none at all. Our surroundings too aggressive. The courts will de-Monday night were several students cide against you, they say. Persefrom Biddle and two or three of our verance, firmness, fortitude, consistlady teachers. But think of our ency and courage are the necessary sating on back seafs-straight, hard concomitants of any cause. Why benches-and in front of us a lot of decry the effort to secure equal and rude, noisy boys. There were seats exact justice, equality and law, in the galery; they are also back when so near the consummation of seats of the same class, and there centuries of sacrifice and endeavors. we would be crowded by all manner The persistent efforts of Beccaria of male and female roughs, tobacco, were necessary to remove the cruand blackguard. It is dangerous for elty of the old penal systems of Soto a lady to wear a decent dress to to prohibit the sale in Africans, of O'Connell to emancipate the Catho-Our people are fond of amuse- lics, of William, the Silent, to wrest ment, and as they are becoming the Netherlands from Spanish tyrmore intelligent, take great interest any and fanaticism; of Washingin the theatre board, especially those ton to shake off the shackles of Engplays which take them back to lish exaction and injustice. All his-Roman history. Under the circum- tory confirms and inspires perseverstances we could not advise our peo-ple to go where they must take back seats and be left at the mercy of the worst classes of both races. We sincerely hope that some changes will be made in our opera

Some time ago the leading colored men of North Carolina assembled at Wilmington and deliberated as to the advisability and necessity of building a railroad. This is a healthy sign, and the road should be distinctively the project of Negro brains and money. It exhibits a singleness of purpose which is especially noteworthy and commendable, because of the lack of this most excellent article in our storehouses, and its necessity for the success of

any enterprise or effort. Now I wish to address myself to every colored man in North Caro lina. They must join in with the march for justice and equality before the law, search for and know the right and dare to arrest it, whether contending for miscegenation, equality at the church, theatre or public meeting, or justice at the ballot, be independent, manly and brave. Sons are springing up who can ill afford to receive a legacy of igno. rance and dependence. Stay in America, in South, in North Carolina, colored men, and work out the social and political problem for which you have been contending so long, so zealously, so manfully. The purpose is good, the cause just. Civili zation cannot and will not be complete until all American citizens are accorded their just freedom and rights in law and society without rea gard to the color of Skin. What possible reason can white men advance to gainsay your rights. The apparent justice of their past kind. nesses and forced legislation will no longer be taken for the essential jus' tice of our being and creation. The reputation of the country calls out for justice. It has been well said Cape Feir and Yidkin Valley Ry. that "laws muy be wrested, contracts evaded, the most solemn terms may be broken, if we abandon justice That community in which injustice and bad faith are habitual cannot possibly support civil liberty." Colored men should appreciate thorough ly the maxim that you cannot expect to love and support you whom you affect to disdain. E. L. T.

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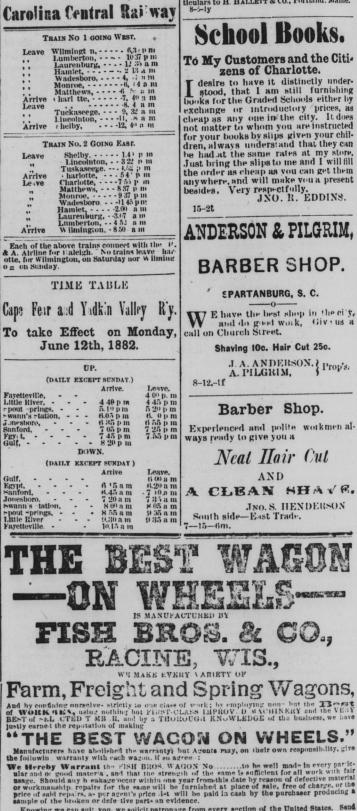
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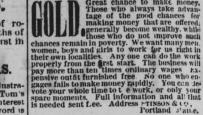
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