

**OUR AGENTS.**

A W Calvin.....City.  
A W Whitfield G C Scurlock...Fayetteville.  
J W McDonald.....Wilmington.  
G W Clinton.....Fletcher, S C.  
E L Thornton.....Washington, D C.  
David Brown, S B Pride.....Biddle & County.  
O E Jones.....Traveling Agent.

**LOCAL AND GENERAL.**

The weather keeps goods.

St. Valentine's day is near.

It is time to begin gardening.

Read our new advertisements and Puck's letter.

If you owe us anything please pay up. If your paper is discontinued it is because we are forced to it.

Are you a subscriber? then read. If you are not don't borrow this paper again, but go and subscribe for yourself.

It is very dull around town just now. No entertainments, marriages, nor anything to excite one's curiosity or keep him awake a-nights.

Rev. R. H. Nichols will preach at the M. E. Church all day to-morrow. Rev. Leek of the A M E church is expected to be present.

On Thursday night while working at the cotton in the old building that was burned the morning before, Mr. Henry Robeson and James Owen were caught under a portion of the falling walls. Owens was pretty badly hurt. Both were doing well at last accounts.

We add to our advertising columns this week a first class shoe house. When you want shoes go to the new house of the old firm of A. E. Rankin where you will find the handsome and polite Mack Smith among the clerks to show you the best and cheapest shoes in the city. Try them.

We have been grieved that about the first of last week Wm. A. Guthrie, Esq., was stricken suddenly with paralysis of the brain, while attending legal business for Mr. W. T. Blackwell, in Durham. We learn he was taken to the asylum on Wednesday. Mr. Guthrie was a resident of Fayetteville and one of the ablest young lawyers in the State. He was a candidate for Superior Court Judge at the last election.

**A Colored Bicycle Rider.**

Last Thursday we saw for the first time, a colored man gracefully riding a Bicycle down Trade street. On halting him we learned his name is Henry Whitfield and lives in Monroe. What is remarkable about it, he made it himself. At some distance his bicycle looks like one of the genuine patent concerns and he rides more gracefully and apparently with more ease than the average white rider. He is to be congratulated upon his energy in making and riding it.

**The Fire.**

On Thursday morning about 3 o'clock the old Rock Island factory was discovered on fire. The flames were bursting out the windows of the fourth floor and no efforts were made to save the building, but all attention turned to those adjoining. The walls of the building fell as fast as the joists and other timbers were burned. The building was used only as a store room and belonged to Burwell and Springs. There were some 500 bales of cotton, a lot of fertilizers and some machinery stored in it which were consumed. A number of bales of cotton were dragged out of the fire after it over. The cause of the fire is not known. It was partly insured. The fireman did good service in saving the adjoining buildings, and later in the morning dozens of men and boys, all colored, joined in saving the cotton.

**Where to Trade.**

It is not the desire nor the intention of this paper to do any person or firm the slightest injury. It is our hope to see all enterprising business men prosper. We would not have it understood that we meant in our last issue to have all of our readers to change their trading places, simply because a man does not advertise with us. It may be that you run monthly accounts with a man. You are under obligations to him, but then you might consider whether our advertisers are not better places for you to trade.

We had more direct reference to the floating cash trade among our people. We advise them to go where they can get the best treatment and make the best trades. Nearly all the colored people belong to this class, and those places, the houses that advertise in the MESSENGER. The advertising with us is an evidence that they recognize us worthy of kind treatment and encouragement in all honest and laudable occupations.

We again beg every colored man in our city and in the county to trade with the men whose names you find in the MESSENGER. We can mention several grocery houses in this city that have been built up by the colored people, and they are kept up by them to-day. If you are good pay, and your merchant does not advertise with us, take your book to one who does. If you don't mean to pay, please don't try to "beat" our men, but give them your money and you shall have the worth of it and proper treatment too. We intend to keep this matter before you.

**Personals.**

Rev D R Stokes and wife, of Statesville, were in the city last Saturday. She went to Columbia.

Rev. Mr Nichols, of the A M E church has returned to the city.

Messrs J. E. Johnston and W. H. Emmons, of Concord were in our city Thursday.

Rev. H M Murphy, of Laurinburg with several other ministers passed through the city last Tuesday to the conference of the M E church which convened in Winston this week.

R. H. W. Leek preached at the M. E. church Thursday night.

For the MESSENGER.

**Some Meh.**

**FOR THE LADIES.**

Says one poet, "the proper study of mankind is man," and as the ladies find it quite an interesting study, they will agree that there are as many kinds as Vennor has weather. The first is the too utterly utter young man, or as he is vulgarly called a masher. He it is who stands on the street corners smoking the stump of a cent and a half cigar, dressed in the latest fashion of second-hand clothes, and has a bowing acquaintance with the entire town. He can be seen escorting the girls around about dinner time, and should the fair one fail in relieving his wants, he will hang around the restaurant or bar-room for a job or free lunch. His market value is one millionth of a cent, multiplied by nothing and divided by one hundred.

Our next is the sentimental young man who parts his hair in the middle and cultivates about fifteen hairs on his upper lip, which he calls his mustache. He sings love songs, and believes in moonlight strolls and kisses at the gate, and loves at first sight. Handle him carefully. The vapid young man scrapes acquaintance in the cars, and beats or forces some unwilling fellow to introduce him around so he can go in and win. He effects the latest slang and the most utterly utter attire, and with his push and vim, generally succeeds in obtaining a quiet walk-over, cuts out his friend, and goes on his way rejoic-

ing over his own irresistibility and the easily gulled young men and girls of that town. The wise youth is generally found in those towns which boasts of some institution of learning, and he has just enough to make him mad. To show his superior wisdom, he always ends his correspondence with some foreign phrase, and tries to extinguish all the other gents by the brilliancy of his conversation.

The inquisitive youth can always be known by his nose pointing heavenward. He always wants to know if you have a lover, and who your correspondents are, and woe be tide the unlucky letter that falls into his hands; and he sometimes peers into the kitchen to see what is there for dinner, on wash days. The boasting young man has lots of money and property at home, and is always looking for remittances, which never come. His father dwells in a palace, and the object of his affections has only to say the word to be transported to scenes of splendor which rivals that of the Arabian Knights.

The gentleman who is selfish, takes his girl to the festival, but manages to leave all of his small change at home but just enough to get in, and for future pleasure she must look elsewhere. He is devoured with jealousy when he sees his girl with another gentleman, even though he is with another girl, and as his wife you would suffer all that a selfish, prying husband can inflict. To give money for necessary expenses is like pulling a tooth, and when you touch his pocket you touch his soul, pierce him with ashes. These are only a few straws drifting upon the surface, ladies, and when another marriage boom strikes your town, don't look at these, but take the old, tried and true ones, even though like ourselves, he may be box-ankled, cross-eyed, hump shouldered and pigeon-toed. Puck.

**SOME WOMEN.**

Some women are industrious, economical, pretty, good and intelligent. But the woman who possesses these five qualities may be said to be hard to find. Almost every woman is in possession of one or more of them. All of these are necessary except one, and that is too often looked upon as the most essential. Some one said, "Pretty is as pretty does," and taking that view of it, every woman may be pretty. Beauty is a delusion, though we do not mean to say a pretty woman may not possess all the better qualities necessary to make a perfect woman.

We present to our readers this week an article from Puck addressed to the young ladies, and the subject of that article is "some men." It is this article that we wish to call the special attention of our young men to. We hope every one of them will read it and give it a proper application.

We do not mean to say that Puck has his mind upon any particular individual, but we ask is there not too much tendency to foppery, etc., among young colored men, generally? Is there not too little interest taken in intellectual and moral improvement?

We have had within the last month two lengthy and well-written articles by our own young ladies, regardless of the timidity of their sex. Now are our young men ready to admit that our girls are their intellectual superiors? Gentlemen, we must know you by your works. It is not necessary for you to write an editorial, to teach a school, or preach a sermon, but it is necessary for you to do something. "By your works will men know you; yea in the last day God will judge you by your works."

We are aware the material is among our young men. It needs only to be worked up. Our girls are fast making their mark. Let

our young men come to the front and keep ahead of the girls. Let us prove that we are not the class spoken of by Puck. Let us not wear second-hand clothes, smoke cheap cigars, nor indulge in any of the frivolities named by Puck. We hope Puck will give us another chapter next week. If they are not here they are somewhere around.

Rev. E. C. Becker.

It is astonishing that there are men in this civilized country, men of intelligence, who cannot discover difference between prosperity and degradation. To this class belongs Rev E C Becker, President of Benedict Institute, at Columbia, S C. To corroborate this assertion, we quote a few expressions from an address delivered by him, a few weeks ago, to the Baptist State Convention, (white) of South Carolina.

"The ignorance and degradation of the colored people appal me. In times of slavery you preached among them, and your wives and daughters went among them. Since the war they have drawn out from you and gone from bad to worse, and to-day their condition, as to religion is immeasurably worse than it was in slavery times. The preaching of the negroes, that I have heard does not rise to the dignity of non-sense. I have not read anything more horrible in heathenism than exist among the colored baptists of this State."

"The North knows nothing of it." "There is no more sense in the preaching of most negro preachers than in the gabble of a goose."

"The Northern people have no magnitude of this black negro problem."

"It is as distasteful to me as it can be to you to thrust myself upon this people, but I am doing it, and wish you to help me—for Christ sake will you do it? The friends of the American Baptist Home Mission Society do not deem it best to educate these colored men at the North. It is believed, by many, that it will rascalize them."

The first thought that suggested itself to me after reading this portion of Mr. Becker's most extraordinary address was, that he had undoubtedly got into the wrong place, and instead of Benedict Institute, he had been President of the Insane Asylum. His assertions are unfounded, malicious, and to a very great extent untrue. He seems to have no conception of disadvantages hardships, and sufferings, which the poor slave endured. No task was too hard for him to perform, no punishment too severe for him to bear.

The master of the poor slave was by no means his friend; he was regarded by him only as a beast of burden. "You preached to them, and your wives and daughters went among them." They did preach to them, their sermons were powerful and effective and caused much mourning and physical suffering on the part of the slave. This appropriate text was selected and every man preached it with deep earnestness: "Negroes obey your masters."

It was considered disgraceful for a white lady to go among the slaves, and instead of giving them biblical instructions if a Bible was found in the house of a slave he was tied to the whipping-post and lashed brutally. If the slaveholders had been so kind to the slave, and struggled so hard to educate him morally, why were they not allowed to have churches of their own, instead of being packed in one corner of the gallery of the white churches. The slaveholder did everything possible to keep the Negro down. During slavery in South Carolina there was not a colored man to be found that could read or write, but to-day there are hundreds. I should like to know if this is not an indication of prosperity. And in many other ways the colored people have made great progress. The remainder of Rev. Becker's address falls beneath our notice; we shall, therefore, treat it with silent contempt.

C. S. B.

Raleigh, Dec. 14th, 1882.

**New Advertisements.**

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—AND— **Customers!**

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**Physicians Prescriptions A Specialty.**

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jan 27-1f

Address of President Grant.



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**WILIAM C. SMITH,** Publisher.