

# The Times.

"The world is governed too much"

Vol 1. Harrington N.C. December 5<sup>th</sup> 1867.

No 8.

Choice Literature .....

How Ben Purtle got his wife.

(Continued)

"Stop never mind," said Ben giving me a nudge. Providence done that up brown. - Nothin' would do, but Mr. Sharp, must lead Miss Katy across first. He jumped on the log in high glee, and looked at his hands, and off they put. Just as they got half way across, a tar-nation great big bulfrog jumped off into the water - you know how they can holler - "Snake!" screamed, the blasted fool, and jumped back and knocked Kate off up to her waist in the nasty, black, muddy water. And what d'ye think he done? why he run backwards and

found a holler for a pole to help Kate out of the water. Kate looked at me and I couldn't stand it no longer. Curchug! I lit ten foot from the bank at the first jump, and had Kate out of there in no time. And d'ye think the scamp didn't come up after we'd got out, and say, are you hurt Miss Katy. My dander was up. I couldn't stand it. I catch him by the seat of his white britches, and his coat collar, and give him a toss. Maybe he didn't go clean under, when he hit the water. I didn't see him out. Me an' Kate put out to the house. When we started off, Kate said, "Ben just let me hold on to your arm my