

Pres: H. P. Battle

NORTH CAROLINA GAZETTE.

Organ of the North Carolina Industrial Association.

J. H. WILLIAMSON, Editor.

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AN ODE.

DEDICATED TO GEN. U. S. GRANT.

Tune—My country 'tis of thee,
Great General 'twas of thee
That give us liberty,
Thy voice we love,
We love thy name to sing,
And to thy work, we cling,
For thou did freedom bring,
From him above.

Long did thou suffer in pains,
'Til God to thee explains,
His glorious love,
On thee he placed his hand,
While angels around did stand,
He will protect thy land,
Like that above.

C. N. WILLIAMS.

Forestville, N. C.

RALPH'S LETTER.

Our canvass in Western Carolina has been one continuous role of success, hard work and enjoyment. The hospitality and warm reception extended to us by the good people in this section, together with our love for the work, give it a zest. Especially is it our pleasure to mention the kind reception extended us at Durham by Mrs. Caroline Barnett, and the exertions on the part of Rev. W. D. Cook and Rev. W. T. H. Woodward to advertise our meeting and make our stay in Durham as pleasant as possible.

At Lexington it was our pleasure to fall into the hands of our excellent friend, Rev. L. D. Twine. He is a competent and efficient leader for our people at Lexington. We were also very cordially entertained by Rev. G. W. Johnson. These gentlemen present to the colored ministry of North Carolina an idea of what unity can do. Though of different denominations, they are christian brethren and work together in harmony. They lead and the people follow. It would be our pleasure to find a number of towns in which the colored leaders work together in such happy unity.

Lexington, although an old town, is by no means behind the times in enterprising spirit. It is a pleasure to work amongst a people where we can enjoy that home like freedom that is so necessary to comfort.

At Greensboro we were entertained by Mrs. — Jones. We spent a pleasant visit at Salisbury under the hospitable roof of our excellent friend, Rev. J. O. Crosby.

Having made our return to the "City of Oaks," we would like to get out on the dome of the capitol and throw a kiss to our friends in the West for their kindness.

Our reception at Chapel Hill was cordial in the extreme. The kindness from Rev. W. H. Capeheart and his landlady, Mrs. Hargrove, calls forth our heart-felt gratitude.

In Charlotte we were cordially received by Mr. L. P. Perry and wife. Our stay under his roof was so full of that home-like pleasantness that we were loath to leave Charlotte.

At Winston we were entertained by our hospitable friend, Henry Pringle. Mr. Pringle is very, VERY clever, and through his kindness

our visit to Winston was a very pleasant one. Several new names were added to our subscription list, and some handsome donations were given at Winston.

In the mountains we found the generous hand, of friends to the Fair, open to receive us.

Our stay was in every degree a pleasant one. We expect a large attendance from the West in November.

"RALPH."

Raleigh, N. C.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

EDITOR GAZETTE,

Sir:—In fulfillment of my promise, long deferred, to write an occasional letter for your paper, I now proceed to do so; but before attempting to write anything that may interest your general readers, allow me to return my thanks to the GAZETTE, Mr. W. H. Bonaparte and your interesting correspondent "Ralph," for the favorable notices which appeared in your paper of my satire on the attempt of the editor of the *People's Advocate* to make an unfavorable comparison between the colored men of North Carolina and those of Virginia; and to assure your patrons that whenever an attempt is made to traduce the colored people of the Old North State, let it emanate from whatever source it may, I shall ever deem it my duty, in so far as I have the ability, to give a "Roland" for an "Oliver" every time. None need lay the "flattering unction to their souls," that the sons of North Carolina will be found wanting in their duty whenever slanderous tongues are wagged, or venomous pens are wielded against her people, for poor she may be in this world's goods in comparison with some of the States of the Union, yet in many men of both races she is rich, and in this she glories like Cornelia and prizes them above all her earthly possessions.

As one born in North Carolina, I am proud in the belief that there is not a State in the Union where more amicable relations exist between all classes and races than in the Tar Heel State, and that in none of them has there been manifested so much interest in the elevation and advancement of the colored people by the whites as is the case in that State; and in confirmation of this assertion, I point to the many eleemosynary institutions for the unfortunate colored people, the institutions of learning supported in whole or in part by public taxation, the whites bearing the heavier part of the burden, and last, but not least by any means, the North Carolina Industrial Association, the conception of which and successful establishment and management all emanating from the intelligent brains and indomitable energy of colored men, and encouraged in its upward and onward tendency in the welfare, elevation and progress of the colored citizens largely by the better class of whites. The col-

ored people of North Carolina should feel proud of the position they occupy in the eyes of the outside world, made enviable largely through the instrumentality of your Industrial Association, in showing at its annual expositions the wonderful progress they have made in their intellectual and material advancement, and every colored man, woman and child in the State ought to bend their best energies to have your next Fair eclipse all its predecessors, grand and unparalleled as they have been. But enough on this point.

It is a well known fact that the worst abused and least understood class of people by the "Outs" are the "Ins," or those who have been and are holding positions under the government, especially those in the Departments here in Washington. To remove the false impression in relation to these employes in the Civil Service made by the campaign cry of "turn the rascals out," you will be doing much to enlighten the public mind on this subject by publishing the following, clipped from a recent issue of the *Evening Star* of this city:

"In a reported interview with Secretary Manning that officer is quoted as saying: 'I'm very much surprised to find so many bright, capable men in the Treasury Department. Why, I meet them by scores every day, sharp as briars, energetic, and with the details of their duties at their tongues' and fingers' ends. From what I have heard I really expected to see a great deal of incompetency and corruption in this place. It appears, however, that the efficiency of the service has been growing better and better every year, until it is astonishing how perfect the machinery is.'

"Whether the Secretary was accurately quoted or not, we cannot say, but we can say that his alleged utterances are exactly true to the facts in the case. It has been the fashion for years among the democrats to denounce the departments at Washington as corrupt and idle. No doubt the *Albany Argus*, Secretary Manning's own newspaper, has had columns on columns of eloquent denunciation of this sort. We have heard much of 'official rottenness,' of 'Augean stables,' and the like, all of which is very fine party rhetoric, but very false and absurd.

"Not only is the civil service of this government the most honest, most capable and most courteous of any public service in the world, but there is no private business of equal magnitude where the honesty and efficiency of the service is on such a high level. If the democrats intend to upset the service, as a reward for political activity, let them say so, honestly. To mask a grab for salary under a lofty regard for 'reform,' is a very cowardly cant. Of course, in such a great multitude there are some drones and some rascals, and they should be weeded out; but the charge that the service as such, is on a low level is as false and almost as wicked a libel as that other which assails the character of the ladies who are in the employ of the government."

I close by making mention that the colored North Carolinians in the civil service are holding their own, and as employes of the gov-

ernment, compare favorably with those of any other section of the country.

We are all delighted at the appointment of Rev. M. A. Hopkins as Minister to Liberia.

W. R. Davis, of the Pension Office, O. M. Roan and myself expect to attend your fair.

WM. V. TURNER.

A VISIT TO WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.

Since our departure from Raleigh on the 8th inst., there has been unusual demonstration, and we have received a very cordial welcome from our friends, who are interested in the progress of the negro and the North Carolina Industrial Fair, yet there are places along the line that need special mention.

Among these is Thomasville, N. C., where we arrived Tuesday, the 15th inst., and were met at the depot by Mr. Jesse Gossett and carried to his residence, about two miles in the country, where we found one of the best regulated farms in Davidson county. Mr. Gossett owns about 300 acres of land, and his farm products and stock are amongst the best we saw in this section. After enjoying a most excellent dinner prepared by our hostess, Mrs. Gossett, who certainly cannot be excelled in this department, the afternoon was very pleasantly spent with Mr. Gossett in walking over the farm, looking at the many modern improvements in farm implements, &c.

We took tea at Mrs. Taylor's, who desired to show her appreciation of our mission. She has our sincere thanks for her generosity.

At 8:30 p. m., we went to the Presbyterian church, where we met a very large and intelligent audience of white and colored citizens of Thomasville. We spoke about two hours on the Progress of the Colored Race, and the approaching Fair.

The next morning we bade our many friends of Thomasville adieu, and took the train for Statesville, but failing to make connection with western trains, we were detained in Salisbury until the next day, Thursday. At 6:30 a. m., we took the train for Statesville in company with Mr. E. A. Johnson, and arrived there about 8:30 a. m. After partaking of breakfast at Mrs. Nancy Gay's, we proceeded to canvass the town, and found that Rev. A. S. Billingsly, Rev. David Brown, Mr. Chambers and others had worked up considerable interest amongst the citizens of Statesville as to the Fair, and had a very large audience to greet us at the Court House. Wednesday evening, according to appointment, notwithstanding our failure to be present, when these gentlemen learned that we were in town, they showed their appreciation in our work by going all through the town and informing the people we had arrived, and would speak at the Court House to-night.

At 8:30 p. m., we were on our way to the Court House in company with Mr. Johnson. When we arrived, we received one of the grandest ovations ever witnessed on such an occasion. The Statesville colored band was standing in front of the Court House filling the air with some of the finest music ever heard, and as we entered the court room we witnessed what we least expected—every seat occupied and many standing, who had assembled to hear our address on the race problem and fair. We spoke about three hours to an audience who gave us their undivided attention, which was only interrupted by occasional applause. Many thanks to the citizens and band for the very cordial greeting we received. It will ever be remembered.

The next day we left for Hickory, and spoke at 8:30 p. m. in the A. M. E. Church to a very respectable audience.

We canvassed the towns of Morganton and Asheville thoroughly, and the people are manifesting much interest in the advancement of our race, and we left with the impression that the West was fully aroused to their duty and would attend in large crowds, and send large quantities of their farm products, stock, mechanical skill, &c., to be placed on exhibition.

Permit us to return many thanks to Rev. J. B. Messiah, Mr. Charles E. Law and others who made our visit so pleasant while in Asheville, and have used their influence to arouse an interest amongst the citizens in behalf of the North Carolina Industrial Fair.

Yours for success,

E. W. TURNER.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Sept 18, 1885.

Bro. Wilson McCombs died Sept. 15th, 1885, at his residence in the third ward of this city. He had been confined to his home for five months, and had been taken care of by the Brotherly Association up to his death. He was a member of that society for 10 or 15 years, and was also a member of the Z. A. M. E. Church a number of years and died in the full faith of our Lord Jesus Christ in his 75th year. His funeral took place at the Z. A. M. E. Church at 3:30 o'clock, p. m. The services were conducted by Rev. J. W. Wells, pastor of the M. E. Church.

The Brotherly Association bore all expenses of the funeral and put him away nicely. The Society turned out in full force.

He leaves a large family to mourn his death. His widow will receive her monthly dues so long as she remains unmarried in good standing, and all children under 10 years of age.

J. M. GOODE, President.

J. C. NORTH, Secretary.

A cynical old bachelor says that lovers are like armies—they get along well enough 'till the engagement begins.