

FORT MILL MELANGE.

Pithy Points Gathered for the Perusal of Times Readers.

Notary Public W. O. Bailes was in town last week. He has married more than 100 couples since January 1.

Fort Mill was represented by a number of young people at the drama presented by home talent in Pineville last Thursday evening. The show was very good.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Mills expect to begin housekeeping in a few days. They will occupy a house on Confederate street near the home of Mr. S. M. Mills.

The drug store of Dr. T. B. Meacham is now lighted by electricity, the power for the lights being generated at the dynamo of the Fort Mill Mfg. Company.

Mrs. M. D. Scott, teacher of the primary department in the Fort Mill public school, has been sick for several days, during which Miss Nannie Thornwell has had charge of her classes.

Mr P. S. Bennett has the thanks of The Times man for a bag of nice sweet potatoes which were left at our office one day last week. Some of the potatoes were as large as any we have ever seen.

Mr. D. O. Potts is probably the most successful hog raiser in this section. At his home a few miles from Fort Mill he has five hogs which he intends to slaughter soon and he thinks their aggregate net weight will amount to more than 2,500 pounds.

The captain of the local military company has received a letter from the adjutant general's office in Columbia designating Wednesday, November 28, as the day on which the company will be inspected. This gives only two weeks in which to prepare for the inspection and every member of the company should attend the drills which have been ordered for Saturday afternoon of this and next week.

R. G. Johnson, Charles Fisher and John Hough, all of Fort Mill, were tried in the court house at Yorkville yesterday on the charge of assault and battery with intent to kill, the prosecutor being J. R. Estridge, a white man who was employed in one of the cotton mills in this place some time ago. Johnson is a police officer in Fort Mill. One afternoon about three months ago he undertook to arrest Estridge, charging him with firing a pistol within the incorporate limits of the town in violation of an ordinance. At the preliminary hearing before Magistrate McElhane Johnson claimed that Estridge refused to submit to arrest and that he used his club on Estridge's head. The case against Fisher and Hough was not pressed, as it appeared that they had nothing to do with the clubbing of Estridge. Johnson claimed in his defense that he did his duty and that it was necessary to use his club. The jury was out on the case nearly the whole of yesterday, but rendered a verdict of "not guilty" late in the afternoon.

York's Wheat and Oat Crops.

The Yorkville correspondent of the News and Courier says that reports from different portions of the county indicate that the wheat and oats acreage is going to be as large this year as it was last year. Many of the reports indicate that the acreage will be larger. So many grain drills have never been sold in this county in any year before. Not only are the farmers using drills, but they are also using disk harrows and improved plows. They are preparing their lands in the best possible manner, and they are fertilizing extensively. There is surely reason to look for a good crop next year. This condition of affairs is the result of last year's experience. Last year there was more wheat grown in this county than ever before within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. The acreage was larger and the average was more satisfactory. A number of farmers have sold portions of their crops to dealers at the prevailing market price, about 70 cents per bushel, but most of them have stored their grain and are holding it for private use.

New Confession of Faith Suggested.

Under the caption of "The Battle Over the Presbyterian Creed," the Atlanta Journal, in a recent issue, published the following paper from the pen of Dr. J. B. Mack, of Fort Mill:

I believe that our Presbyterian church needs a new confession of faith; that the present generation of Presbyterians should make their own statement of Scripture doctrine, and not be repeating, parrot-like, a statement made over 250 years ago, when the truths to be taught and the errors to be condemned were certainly in some measure very different from those of our day. Let us testify to the very same system of truth, but from a different standpoint—that of A. D. 1900, and not that of A. D. 1648.

Our church must do one of three things. 1. Hold to the present confession of faith without any alteration whatsoever. 2. Amend the present confession of faith by adding to it or striking out some parts. 3. Make a new statement of our Calvinistic or Pauline system of doctrine.

1. We can hold our present confession unaltered. There are three classes who urge this. (1) Those who regard the confession as perfect—as the express image of God's word. Some Papists have a water God; some immersionists, a water God; and some Presbyterians, a creed God. (2) Those who regard the Westminster divines as so much wiser and holier than those of our day that we are incompetent to make our confession. The men of that day were giants, while we are but dwarfs. Does not the confession thus dwarf its adherents? Then the sooner we get a new one the more good to man and the more glory to God. (3) Those who fear to make any change, not knowing whereunto the thing may grow. This class I respect and honor, for they are conservative and prudent. But conservatism may become cowardice, and the virtue of prudence can degenerate so when it fears to perform a duty.

2. We can amend the confession. This would not be best, for we view our Calvinistic system from a different standpoint than did the divines of A. D. 1648. Any attempt to amend might mar the harmony of the whole. It would be putting new wine into old bottles; breaking the bottles and wasting the wine. We had better leave their grand statement of Scripture truth untouched, their noble work unmarred.

3. We can make a new confession, and thus have our own statement of the Presbyterian faith. This is very desirable, perhaps necessary. Why?

(1) The confession of A. D. 1648 is too lengthy, e. g.: The fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth sections of the very first chapter could have been put in one-fourth the space. All of it is good, but there is too much of it. Sometimes a minister preaches a sermon two hours long in order to exhaust his subject—and he also exhausts his hearers. The confession always exhausts the subject. Hence, the majority of our elders and deacons have never read it through, and they never will. They are not theologians, but practical men in ordinary life. For their creed they do not want a theological treatise, but a plain and concise statement of Scripture truth; that the ordinary church officer will read and can understand. Then their ordination vows will not be a mere form, but an intelligent act.

(2) The confession is defective. It utters no testimony on many of the living questions of our day, e. g.: This is the error of foreign missions, and yet it is silent on this subject. This is the day of the "higher criticism," but on this matter our oracle is dumb. Moreover, it should honor God the Holy Spirit by a separate and distinct statement of His person and work. Much of the testimony of our confession is concerning dead issues. Let the dead past bury its dead, but let the living Presbyterians of today deal with living issues only, and we will have all we can do.

3. The confession affirms infer-

ences as dogmatic truth on some issues, when Scripture is silent, e. g.: It affirms that the number of men and angels "predestinated unto everlasting life" or "foreordained to everlasting death is so certain and definite that it can not be either increased or diminished." Now this hard saying is only an inference. Why then speak so positively and dogmatically when Almighty God has refrained from doing so? Neither wisdom nor piety requires this at our hands. This "zeal for the Lord" is a little like that of bloody John, and utterly unlike that of Jesus Christ, who refused to speak positively of that known by the "Father only."

4. Some statements of the confession are too indefinite, e. g.: The clause "elect infants dying in infancy." What does this mean? The late discussion in our church papers prove that in our church there are three distinct opinions. Some say that all dying in infancy are elect; others say that "elect infants" clearly implies that some dying in infancy may not be elect, and others say that the confession purposely leaves it uncertain because the Bible leaves it so.

It is said that one-half of our race die in infancy. On a matter of such transcendent importance the testimony of a great church should be distinct and clear. It is neither noble nor manly, neither Christian nor Christ-like, to utter an uncertain sound. If all dying in infancy are elect, why not plainly say so? If the Bible teaches that some dying in infancy may not be elect, why fear to say so? If the Bible purposely leaves it uncertain, why dare to speak on it in any way? Our people want a non-ambiguous statement, and they are going to have it.

5. The confession emphasizes the "God-side" of truth, but does not emphasize the "man-side" of truth. What is truth? Jesus Christ answers, "I am truth." Who, then, is Jesus Christ? He is God, for he forgives sin; and he is man, for he suffered and died. He is thus both God and man. Deny either his Godhood or his manhood and you deny Jesus Christ. Belittle either his Godhood or his manhood and you belittle Jesus Christ.

Thus there is a God-side of truth, even as Jesus Christ is man. Deny either the God-side or the man-side and you deny the truth. Belittle either of these and you belittle the truth. Now our confession emphasizes "Divine sovereignty," which is the God-side of truth; but it fails to emphasize "free agency," or "human responsibility," which is the man-side of truth. For our church to give a full and clear testimony to the truth we must emphasize both, and we are going to do this.

I am a Presbyterian, accepting everything in our present confession except the assertion that the Pope of Rome is the antichrist; but our church needs and will have a confession that is not so lengthy; that is not so silent on living issues; that is not dogmatic when God is silent; that does not utter an uncertain sound on momentous questions, and that will not fail to emphasize the "man-side of truth."

Inhumanity to a Sick Man.

A revolting story, involving serious charges against an alleged quack physician, comes from Burlington, N. C., a cotton manufacturing town 25 miles east of Greensboro. Mr. Eugene Holt, a wealthy mill owner, missing one of his employees, a young white man, Henry Jordan, made inquiries and ascertained that he had not been seen by any of the other employees for several weeks. He at once visited Jordan's boarding place and found the young man in a pitiable plight. For eight weeks Jordan had been suffering from typhoid fever, and for the major part of that time had been absolutely without care or attention. He was emaciated to a horrifying degree and was in a shocking condition. Gangrene had set in.

Mr. Holt learned that the people in the house had given Jordan no attention beyond calling a quack

doctor when he was first taken ill, who, when the young operator's scant means were exhausted, left him with a curse, refusing even to dress his bed-sores.

Mr. Holt had Jordan cared for, and says that he will see to it that those guilty of such inhumanity are properly punished. The case has stirred up intense indignation and the authorities are investigating.

BRIGHTEN UP FOR CHRISTMAS.

And one of the first things to do is to buy a BOTTLE OF OUR FURNITURE POLISH.

It will put a better gloss on your furniture than anything you have ever seen and make things look brighter, neater and cleaner, and furthermore it will resist the action of water and will not spot as is the case with most polishes. Put up in 1-2 pint bottles for 25 cts. Try a bottle, and if you are not pleased bring it back and get your money. That's business.

W. B. ARDREY & CO.

G. W. NORMAN & CO.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL LIQUOR DEALERS,

Box 65, CHARLOTTE, N. C.

I take much pleasure in calling your attention to the very low prices of my fine old open furnace Whiskies, which for fifteen years have had no equal, either for drink or medicinal purposes. Having purchased large quantities of Old Mountain Corn Whiskey at very low prices last summer when distillers were pressed for cash, I am prepared to give special attention and very low quotations to anyone wanting anything in my line. All orders must be accompanied by cash or bank reference.

Be careful to examine my price list, which includes jug and box:

Sweet Mash Corn,	\$1.50 to \$1.75
Old Corn Whiskey, very fine	2.00
Good Rose Gin,	1.60
Best Holland Gin,	2.00
Fine Geneva Gin,	3.00
First-rate Sunbeam Rye,	1.60
Best Sunbeam Rye,	2.00
Fine High Grade Ryes,	3.00
North Carolina Apple Brandy,	2.25
Old N. C. Peach Brandy,	2.50
Pure New England Rum,	1.75
Peach and Honey,	2.00
Rock and Rye,	1.75
Fine Bottled Whiskies, in close box	4.00

No charge will be made for keg when you want such quantities.

Most respectfully,

G. W. NORMAN & CO.

BIG LOG ROLLING now going on in White Oak Camp, Woodmen of the World. JOIN NOW and SAVE \$5. You are surely going to die. Get ready while you can.

Money Loaned

We negotiate mortgage loans on improved farms at reasonable rates.

WITHERSPOON & SPENCER, Rock Hill and Yorkville, S. C.

For First-class Service go to HAMILTON'S - RESTAURANT, Opposite 1st Presbyterian church, CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Best Oysters in the city. Largest lunch counter in the State. 221 West Trade street.

NOTICE OF ELECTION.

An election for one Warden to serve out the unexpired term of J. T. Mackey will be held in the town of Fort Mill on Monday, November 19, 1900. The polls will be open from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m.

Ira G. Smythe, F. T. Pegram and T. B. Spratt have been appointed managers.

By order of the Council. R. F. GRIER, Intendant. Attest: J. M. SPRATT, Clerk.

IF YOU ARE IN BUSINESS IN THIS SECTION AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE TIMES WOULD PAY YOU HANDSOMELY.

SEWING MACHINES.

We have just received a dozen NEW HOME SEWING MACHINES—the rich man's machine at the poor man's price. Only the New Home has these improvements, double ball bearings, double feed, extra room under press foot, automatic tension with releaser, stitch regulating dial gives length of stitch at sight. All bearings made of armor-plate steel, diamond finish, runs without vibration and will outwear two machines of other makes. It is so simple that a child can operate it.

If you need a machine why not get the best? Our prices are only about HALF as much as you pay peddling agents. We have been selling New Home Sewing Machines sixteen years and have never had a single complaint. The only trouble we have is they never wear out. Call and see the new styles and let us save you \$25. We sell on easy terms, at cash prices, and charge only 50 cents a month for extra time.

L. J. MASSEY.

JACK FROST IN ALL HIS GLORY.

OUR BLANKETS IN ALL THEIR BEAUTY.

We sell the celebrated Elkin (N. C.) Blankets in 10-4 and 11-4. They are the best made for the money.

A FULL LINE OF UNDERWEAR—

Ladies' wool vests	\$1.75 per pair.
Ladies' cotton vests	50c. to \$1.00 per pair.
Ladies' cotton pants	25 and 50c. per pair.
Mens' wool shirts	\$2.00 per pair.
Mens' wool pants	1 per pair.
Mens' cotton pants	50c. and \$1 per pair.
Childrens' union suits, 3, 4, 5 and 6 years	25c.

MITENS AND GLOVES—

Childrens' wool mittens	10 and 15c.
Ladies' wool mittens	10, 15 and 25c.
Mens' wool gloves	25, 50, 75 and \$1

NEW LINE OF DRESS GOODS—

This is our third order for dress goods. In the lot you will find Broadcloths and Venetians—the Venetians you have paid 60c. per yard for. We bought these late and got them cheaper. You may have them for 50c. per yard. If you haven't bought your suit, now is the time, as we can save you money. Come early, as they will not last long.

MEACHAM & EPPS.

WINCHESTER

Factory Loaded Shotgun Shells.

"LEADER" and "REPEATER" loaded with Smokeless powder and "NEW RIVAL" loaded with Black powder. Superior to all other brands for

UNIFORMITY, RELIABILITY AND STRONG SHOOTING QUALITIES.

Winchester Shells are for sale by all dealers. Insist upon having them when you buy and you will get the best.

A STORM OF LOW PRICES

AT THE

FORT MILL MFG. CO.'S STORE.

We have a large and well-selected stock of—

Notions, Shoes, Hats, and Ready-Made Clothing.

Also a nice line of—

Choice Family Groceries.

And we solicit a share of your patronage.

Our new Line of Ladies' Dress Goods and Ready-made Skirts will surprise you.

Call and examine our large stock of—

Mens' and Boys' Suits

Our salesmen are obliging and courteous and can show you some excellent bargains. Come and see us and we will do you good.

STORE, FORT MILL MFG. CO.