For the Messenger.

LETTER FROM VERONA.

The Messenger appreciated Verona and Her Schools, The-Crops in Lee County, Politics, Negroes for Greeley, &c. &c.

EDITOR MESSENGER:—Having a leisure hour this evening, your correspondent feels inclined to devote it to writing a letter for your columns. You know not what a welcome visitor the Messenger is to one among strangers. It is better than a letter from home—Paulding still seems like home. By the way, your admirable journal seems to improve with every issue, in the perspicuity of its editorials, its spicy locals, its selections, and its general typographical appearance.

You may well congratulate yourself in being half proprietor as well as editor of a paper that has been so remarkably successful during its brief existence, and promises so well for the future. Nothing exercises a more potent influence upon the prosperity of a village than a well-conducted newspaper. The Messenger and the Paulding Institute will achieve reputation broader than the limits of Mississippi. Under the control of an educator so distinguished as Prof. P. E. Collins, your Institute is destined to rank with the best in the State. The citizens of Paulding should deem themselves highly favored. May they show appreciation of the paper and the school by liberally supporting both! In her poverty, the South must educate the rising generation. Schools and the press co-operate in the great work. If the Southern mind is duly cultivated, its superiority will be long ascertained in the councils of the nation. Southern Statesmen will again shape the legislation of the country; and prosperity will smile upon us forever.

Verona is a station on the M. & O. R. R. It numbers from 1000 to 1200 inhabitants. It is in Lee, the Banner Democratic County of the State. It is noted as the most moral depot on the entire Road. The citizens are Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, with a few Christians and Episcopalians. The Methodists and Baptists have houses of worship, regular preaching and flourishing Sunday Schools. The educational advantages are unsurpassed. The Verona Female College, and the Verona Collegiate Institute for young men and boys are both excellent institutions, and liberally patronized. So noted have they become, that students from a distance are passed over the M. & O. R. R. at half rates. It is necessary, however, for them to pay full rate as they come, taking a certificate to the fact, from the Railroad agent, and through the Principals of the Schools a free pass is secured to return home at the end of the session. The officers of the M. & O. Railroad deserve the thanks of the country for their liberality in this matter.

Peculiarly, the citizens of Verona are all solvent. No mortgages hang over the farmers in her vicinity. Every one pays his debts. Such a community is seldom found.

The crops of cotton have been cut short one-third by the two months' drought. Yet the number of bales will fall but little below that of last year. A great abundance of corn has been produced. It was mature before the growth began. Altogether, the people of Lee have cause to be thankful for the bountiful blessings of Heaven. In consequence of good crops, the merchants of all the towns have brought on immense stocks of goods, and expect an unusually lively trade.

Politics excite but little interest. The people have long since made up their minds to support Greeley. If every State was as certain to cast its vote for Greeley and Brown, as Lee county, Grant and Wilson would give up the canvass at once. There are but two Straight-outs in the county, and hopes are entertained of their early conversion. The Radicals are few and far between.

A great many of the negroes will vote the Greeley ticket. If the people—the white people throughout the State would exert themselves, one half the negroes could be made Conservatives, and Greeley would sweep the State like a tornado. Let us try it.

Yours.

Verona, Miss., Sept. 16th 1872.