

POETRY.

THE VISITOR.

There goes the bell! A visitor, I guess, And I'm a-fraid I haven't time to greet...

A STORY OF CHRISTMAS.

BY WILLIAM O. STODDARD.

There had never before been quite such a winter as that. Not in Perryville. Away back in November it began to get ready for Christmas...

you Merry Christmas. It's coming to-morrow. The bland face of the one physician the village contained since the bankruptcy and death of Batty's father...

"Wish you a Merry Christmas!" Batty instantly responded. "No, sir. It can't come. We've got our own. All that belongs to us. Father's got the rest where he is. Mother said so..."

words arouse in the throat of Grandfather Starin. "If the words the spectacles pointed at could have found their way up—but they could not—they would have been: 'Glory to God in the highest. On earth peace, good will to men.'"

He pushed right past both of them into the house. "It's in my bedroom," said Mrs. Perouse, as if she knew what he was after, and in half a minute more a faint smile answered her from the middle of a great bundle that he brought out in his arms.

The Hermit of Cleveland County. [Shelby Aitona.] Cleveland county's recluse and oddity has vanished. The eccentric man who shunned man's society, whose heart had never felt the blandishments of woman, the strange man who never owed any man one dollar, who never attended a funeral during his life, never heard a sermon since infancy, and never saw a town in his life, has strangely and suddenly passed away...

An Early Newspaper. WILMINGTON, N. C. — In reading again the admirable address of Capt. Ashe, before the Press Association of 1881, for the third or fourth time, I notice what is perhaps an inaccuracy and one which you might like to correct. You say that up to 1812 there was no newspaper published west of Raleigh. I remembered having read somewhere the following item, and as I came across it to-night I thought I would give it to you. It is from F. A. Michaux's "Travels to the Alleghany Mountains and back to Charleston by the Upper Carolinas," 1805, p. 267. These travels were begun in 1802, and the book published three years later. "At Lincolnville they print a newspaper in folio, that comes out twice a week. The price of subscription is two dollars a year; but the printer who is his own editor, takes by way of payment, for the ease of his country subscribers, flour, rye, wax, &c., at the market price. The advertisements inserted for the inhabitants of the country are generally sent gratis to printers. The foreign news is extracted from papers that are published at the whole United States, the right to receive free of postage, the newspapers that they wish to exchange among themselves or those which are addressed to them.—News and Observer Cor.

Durable Fence Posts. The oldest fence the writer has seen, is a chestnut post and rail fence on a farm in Pennsylvania, which was built more than fifty years ago. It set in the following manner: The holes were dug larger than is now usual, and with the old fashioned shovel or spade; the posts were of good size, and the holes were filled with stones, tightly rammed down. No earth was put in, and the bottom of the post was consequently dry and exposed to a circulation of air. Large stones were laid on the top, which served to turn the rain from the hole. The posts and rails have been whitewashed with lime at intervals, and this has prevented the growth of moss and helped to preserve timber. The fence has never been disturbed by frost, but remains upright.—American Agriculturist.

Be You Mean Business? Well, if you have strength to push your business, it is well. But a man's business has broken down because the man was broken down, and had no push in him. If you want to make a success, build up your system by the use of Brown's Iron Bitters. Dr. W. M. Winfree, of Petersburg, Va., says: "There is no medicine equal to Brown's Iron Bitters for general debility, it cures dyspepsia, enriches the blood, and strengthens the muscles."

Better stop your cough while you can. Bye and bye nothing will do it. It is worth heeding, that Parker's Tonic is the best thing known for coughs, colds, torpid liver, kidney trouble and weak lungs. You risk your life in waiting. Take it while there is yet time.

Patents Granted. Patents granted to citizens of the Southern States on Dec. 8, 1885, and reported expressly for the GLEANER by C. A. Snow & Co., Patent Lawyers, opposite U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.:

C. J. Barrard, Byhalia, Miss. Hay and cotton press. B. J. Du Bass, Lisbon, Ga. Grinding mill. H. F. Dunn, Eagle Lake, Texas. Gate. J. M. Ferguson, New Orleans, La. Boiler life cleaner. C. C. Kierulff, Starke, Fla. Planter. P. C. Klapper, Louisville, Ky. Ventilator. J. W. Addis, Tyler, Tex. Locomotive valve gear. J. I. McCool, Clinton, N. C. Vehicle axle. B. Roper, Atlanta, Ga. Velocipede. J. E. Welling, Leesburg, Ky. Animal poke. J. A. Bailey, Clinton, S. C. Baling press. M. F. Taylor, Mobile, Ala. Car. H. T. Clifton, La. Chopper. A. D. Thomas, Little Rock, Ark. Elevator and feeder. M. Umstadter, Norfolk, Va. Gingham exhibitor. E. Walton, Cartersville, Va. Tobacco carrier. T. M. Moore, Rusk, Tex. Plow. M. Deagle, Houma, La. Bridge. F. N. Hawkins, Shelbyville, Tenn. Hame fastener. W. H. Hook, Springdale, Ky. Church duster. H. C. Howell, Baton Rouge, La. Cotton planter. S. Cary, Centerville, La. Auger. B. N. Deblieux, Bay St. Louis, Miss. Telegraph insulator.

Patents granted to citizens of the Southern States on Dec. 8, 1885, and reported expressly for the GLEANER by C. A. Snow & Co., Patent Lawyers, opposite U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.:

C. J. Barrard, Byhalia, Miss. Hay and cotton press. B. J. Du Bass, Lisbon, Ga. Grinding mill. H. F. Dunn, Eagle Lake, Texas. Gate. J. M. Ferguson, New Orleans, La. Boiler life cleaner. C. C. Kierulff, Starke, Fla. Planter. P. C. Klapper, Louisville, Ky. Ventilator. J. W. Addis, Tyler, Tex. Locomotive valve gear. J. I. McCool, Clinton, N. C. Vehicle axle. B. Roper, Atlanta, Ga. Velocipede. J. E. Welling, Leesburg, Ky. Animal poke. J. A. Bailey, Clinton, S. C. Baling press. M. F. Taylor, Mobile, Ala. Car. H. T. Clifton, La. Chopper. A. D. Thomas, Little Rock, Ark. Elevator and feeder. M. Umstadter, Norfolk, Va. Gingham exhibitor. E. Walton, Cartersville, Va. Tobacco carrier. T. M. Moore, Rusk, Tex. Plow. M. Deagle, Houma, La. Bridge. F. N. Hawkins, Shelbyville, Tenn. Hame fastener. W. H. Hook, Springdale, Ky. Church duster. H. C. Howell, Baton Rouge, La. Cotton planter. S. Cary, Centerville, La. Auger. B. N. Deblieux, Bay St. Louis, Miss. Telegraph insulator.