

BENEATH THE MISTLETOE



By **ERSKINE DEFOE.**
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A BLITHESOME maid, divinely fair,
 Stepped, thoughtless,
 'neath the mistletoe
 Hung high above the carpet square,
 While out of door fell fleecy snow.
 Heighho! Heighho!
 Surprised beneath the mistletoe!

HE did not know she was so near
 The kiss provoking mistletoe.
 The bough upon the chandelier
 Was deftly fixed, but not too low.
 Oh, no! Oh, no!
 In ambush was the mistletoe.

NICE in the mesh and fairly caught,
 She showed no sudden haste to go.
 Two victims with a single thought
 Are brave beneath the mistletoe.
 Just so! Just so!
 The courage-giving mistletoe!

WITH cheeks suffused a rosy red
 That shamed the holly's livid glow
 She held aloft her charming head,
 The lawful kiss did not forego,
 And, lo! And, lo!
 That kiss beneath the mistletoe!

The Deacons's Christmas Eve

BY GERALD PRINCE
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This very night they're coming home.
 Their faces will appear
 Once more around the Yuletide feast,
 Our sons and daughters dear.
 Then there'll be all the babies, too,
 To jolt upon my knee
 And make our big, old-fashioned house
 A scene of revelry.

The hemlock wreaths hang on the wall.
 That spray of mistletoe
 Recalls, old dear, our sparkling days,
 Some fifty years ago,
 When first I kissed you underneath
 The bough of fateful pearls.
 I seem to see you once again,
 The sweetest of all girls.

The pantry shelves are loaded down
 With every kind of cake
 And pies of mince and pumpkin such
 He only you can make.
 Beyond the close shut parlor door
 An angel bright and fair
 Is looking down upon a tree
 That stands all ready there.

Put up your knitting, mother, dear.
 The tinkle of the bells
 Across the snow-clad upper road
 In welcome warning swells,
 For here are Dick and Jack and Jess
 And Molly, Tom and Sue
 And all the merry, dimpled, cute,
 Mischievous youngsters too!

Perry-Strange.

Maple Springs Baptist church was the scene of a beautiful marriage Wednesday evening, December the 22nd at eight o'clock. The contracting parties were Mr. W. H. Perry, Jr., and Miss Pearl Strange, of Mapleville.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. G. M. Duke. Just before the bridal party entered, "Because God made Thee mine" was sweetly sang by Miss Mary Helen Webb, of Mapleville. The following attendants entered by the strains of the wedding march rendered by Mrs. Henry Hoos, of Thelma.

First came the ushers. Messrs. James Wheelock and Wade Harris, Herbert Perry and Norwood Fuller. Following Mr. Al Perry and Miss Lucy Webb, Mr. Oliver Perry, and Miss Emma Duke, Mr. Hugh Perry and Miss Annie Stone, Mr. Willie Duke and Miss Annie Perry. Misses Bessie Perry and Bessie Strange maids of honor preceded the bride who entered with her brother Mr. Walter Strange, who gave her away. They were met at the altar by the groom and his brother, Mr. J. R. Perry, who was the best man.

The bride was handsomely dressed in white messaline silk, and carried carnations.

She was the daughter of Mr. J. W. Strange, our esteemed county man, and is noted for her sweet disposition and sterling qualities which go to make up the true woman.

The groom is one of our prosperous young farmers of Mapleville.

A. B.

Badly Burned.

Little John, the four-year-old son of Mr. J. W. King, while playing with some matches Wednesday morning about 10 o'clock, was badly burned. His jacket caught from one

of the matches and not being able to knock the fire off he ran for his mother who caught something up and smothered the flame. Drs. J. E. Malone and R. F. Yarbrough were immediately summoned and rendered the necessary assistance. It was found that his breast and under its right arm were pretty badly burned, but it is hoped that it is not serious. At this writing, Wednesday evening, he is resting as well as could be expected.

U. D. C.

The regular meeting of the Jos. J. Davis Chapter will be held in the Masonic Hall, Wednesday afternoon January 5th at 3:30 sharp. A prompt and full attendance is desired that arrangements may be made for the dinner to be given on Tuesday of Court week, for the Monument Fund.

Those who have not already paid their dues for 1910, will please bring same to this meeting.

MRS. J. E. MALONE, Pres.
 MRS. R. H. DAVIS, Sec'y.

Large Hogs.

The persons named below have been reported to us as having killed large hogs the past week as follows:
 Needham Beddingfield, one, 362.

Edward Meedy, one, 364.
 Fred Williams, two 13 months old 672.
 J. C. Mullin, two weighing 619.
 W. W. Flowers, one 389.
 Mallie Pearce, two, 240, 290.
 J. H. Fuller, three, 425, 313, 285.
 Henry Ethridge, Harris township, two, 220, 260.

A Xmas Prayer.

I AM thinking of you today, because it is Christmas and I wish you happiness, and tomorrow because it will be the day after Christmas, I shall wish you happiness; and so on clear through the year. I may not be able to tell you about it every day, because I may be far away, or because both of us may be very busy, or perhaps because I cannot even afford to pay the postage on so many letters or find the time to write them. But that makes no difference. The thought and the wish will be here just the same. In my work and in the business of life I mean to try not to be unfair to you or injure you in any way. In my pleasure, if we can be together, I would like to share the fun with you, whatever joy or success comes to you will make me glad. Without pretense, and in plain words, good will to you is what I mean—HENRY VAN DYKE.

Annual Banquet.

The Louisburg Fire Department celebrated its annual banquet at the Louisburg Hotel on last Thursday night, when a most bountiful feast

was spread before its membership. Hon. J. D. McNeil of Fayetteville, President of the North Carolina Volunteer Firemen's Association was the guest of the occasion. The banquet was presided over by Mr. J. A. Turner and many good speeches were made. These made by Mr. S. P. Boddie, of the Wagon team, and Dr. A. H. Fleming, of the Reel team were good, but the one made by President McNeil was the speech of the evening. He reviewed the good services of the Volunteer Firemen of the State and paid special tribute to the department. His was greatly enjoyed by all. The occasion was indeed a great success and will be long remembered by those who were present.

Fire at Jail.

Fire was discovered at the jail here on Sunday morning about half-past six o'clock by night police J. C. Tucker, who turned in the alarm immediately. In a few minutes the fire department and a large number of citizens were on the scene and succeeded in extinguishing the fire without much difficulty. The fire caught in a lot of kindling lying in one corner, but just now it was not ascertained. The general opinion is that it was not done by any of the prisoners as the fire was between them and the exit to the building. The damage to the building was small owing to the fact that the fire was put out without having to connect up the hose with the hydrant. The fire department however, was there on time in case their services were needed.

Banks to Close.

We are requested to state that the banks in Louisburg will close on Saturday and Monday for Christmas holidays.

Personal.

Capt. P. G. Alston visited Henderson Tuesday.
 Miss Ellis Alford is visiting relatives in Nashville.
 Mr. H. M. Stovall and family are visiting relatives at Stovall.
 Mr. J. W. Hight, of Robersonville, was a visitor to Louisburg the past week.
 Weldon Egerton came home Wednesday from Chapel Hill to spend Xmas.
 Capt. J. B. Thomas arrived this week from Apex to spend Christmas at home.
 Mr. and Mrs. Loyd D. Liles, of Charlotte, visited her people here the past week.
 Mr. J. P. H. Mangum and little daughter, visited at Mr. J. J. Persons this week.
 Mr. E. A. Kemp and little son left Saturday for Baltimore to spend Xmas with his mother.
 Miss Sallie Pleasants, who has been at Aberdeen for some time, returned home this week.
 Mr. F. N. Egerton, Jr., who is attending school at Trinity College, is at home for the holidays.
 Miss Maude Hicks returned Saturday from Greensboro Female College to spend the holidays.
 Miss Laura Mills, who has been at Albemarle for some time, returned home one day last week.
 Daniel Pau Smithwick came home this week from Trinity Park High School to spend Xmas.
 Mr. E. H. Malone, of Havana, Cuba, arrived Sunday to spend the holidays with his people here.
 Joo, E. Williams returned one day last week from Raleigh to spend the holidays with his people here.
 Miss Annie Allen, who has been

attending school at Converse College at Spartanburg, S. C., arrived home one day this week for the holidays.

Mrs. Dr. Hal Harris, of Wake Forest, arrived in town Tuesday. She will make her future home here with her brother, Mr. J. J. Person.

Mr. J. O. Newell, who has been attending the Physicians and Surgeons college at Baltimore, returned home Tuesday to spend the holidays.

Messrs. H. D. Egerton, W. M. Boone and J. O. Sledge returned from Greensboro last week, where they attended a meeting of the National Farmer's Union.

Messrs. J. W. Hollingsworth, J. S. Lancaster, T. W. Watson and H. C. Bowden went over to Henderson Monday night to attend a banquet given by the Knights Templar.

Dr. Joe Uzzell, who is a medical student of the University of Maryland, at Baltimore, Md., arrived home one day the past week to spend the holidays with his people.

Mr. H. T. Beasley, of Apex, is visiting his son, R. M. Beasley, in town this week. "Uncle Dick," as he is familiarly known, has many friends here who are always glad to see him.

Attorney General T. W. Bickett left Sunday for Washington D. C. to appear before the United States Supreme court in the interest of the State in the suit about the disputed boundary line between North Carolina and Tennessee.

Northern Hunters.

Messrs. J. B. Brooks and Charles Simmons, of Trenton, N. J., who have been spending some time at Mr. J. B. Glasgow's, at Cedar Rock, bird hunting, returned home Wednesday. While here they said that "the Southern people were the most hospitable people on earth."