

THE EMPTY STOCKING

There's an empty stocking hanging From many a little bed, Where a God-blown dream hangs over Each sleepy, curling head;

There's an empty stocking hanging By a many bind-blown door, That must wait in vain for Christmas In the gray haunts of the poor;

But out where splendor centers In the mansions of the Great, No call will go unanswered— No tot will vainly wait;

But where one gift would brighten The dark of weary days, No reindeer's hoofs will thunder Out poverty's dreary ways;

—By Grantland Rice.

a baby brother one year old. My sister wants a doll and a cradle. Brother wants a gun and horn. He wants to be a soldier. I help my mama about the house. I can sweep the house and wash the dishes.

ANNIE L. ROBERSON, VANNA A. ROBERSON, BENENT A. ROBERSON.

THE COOK WILL BE REMEMBERED

Burlington, N. C., Dec. 14, 1914. Dear Santa Claus:—

I am a little girl 10 years old. My name is Lannic Cook. I live in the country. I have one little brother, his name is Ambrose Cook.

Santa, I want you to bring me a big jointed doll and some candy and some nuts and some apples and some oranges. My brother wants you to bring him a train and some candy and anything you like.

I will close, Santa, if you think that is too much, bring me just what you think I need, Sweet Santa.

LANNICE COOK.

Route 5, Box 61.

Burlington, N. C., Dec. 16, 1914.

Dear Santa Claus:—

When Christmas comes I want you to bring me a billy goat that don't smell bad, a doll that don't break easy and some gloves.

If the billy goat squeals when you start down the chimney, just choke 'im. That's the way grandmother does her chickens.

Your little boy, WILLIAM THOMPSON.

P. S.—I'm three years old.

Julian, N. C., Dec. 15, 1914.

Dear Santa Claus:—

I am a little girl seven years old. I live on Julian Route 1. I want you to bring me a ring, or a bracelet. I have a little sister and brother. Please bring him a harp and sister a doll that will open and shut her eyes. If you think that too much, please bring me something. My name is

GEORGIA SHOFFNER.

Burlington, N. C., Dec. 16, 1914.

Dear Santa Claus:—

Not much I'll ask. I am a little boy six years old and want a horse and cart, drug, horn and a ball. If you think this is too much, bring me what you can. I live on Railroad street, near Elmira Mills. Santa, I want you to be sure and come to see me if you can get away from the North Pole.

Goodbye, Dear Santa. My name is MARK FOSTER.

Burlington, N. C., Dec. 16, 1914.

Dear Santa Claus:—

I am a little girl 11 years old and live on Route 5, out in the country. I want a nice doll, a pair of gloves and overshoes, also some candy, apples, oranges, grapes and nuts. I have a baby sister 2 years old. Her name is Mildred. Please remember her too, Dear Old Santa. From

FLORINE KIRKPATRICK, MILDRED KIRKPATRICK.

Burlington, N. C., Dec. 16, 1914.

Dear Santa Claus:—

I will write you a letter to tell you what I would like to have for Christmas. I am a little girl 5 years old. I live at Carolina Cotton Mill. I have one little sister, one year old, please bring her something that will suit her and please bring me a little cradle and A B C Book and a carriage or a piano. If this is too much bring what is right wishing you and all the little girls and boys a Merry Christmas

LUDDY DICKENS.

Burlington, N. C., Dec. 14, 1914.

Dear Santa Claus:—

I am a little girl 8 years old. I can't write so I will get my papa to write for me. I live near the Alamance monument. Please bring me for Christmas present a doll and a little cradle for her to sleep in. I have a little sister five years old and

SANTA LIKES ALL THE ROBERSONS.

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WANTS "POST TOASTIES."

Spray, N. C., Dec. 16, 1914.

Dear Santa Claus:—

I am a little boy three years old and live in the hilly town of Spray. Mama anys you will not get to this

Letters to Santa Claus

Reidsville, N. C., Dec. 16, 1914.

Dear Santa Claus:—

I am a little girl 7 years old, and want you to bring me a doll and carriage, a little money bank, some fruit and candy.

I used to live in Burlington. My papa is J. W. L. Thompson. I am not letting mama and pap know I write this, for I am at Grandma's.

Your little friend, MARY LOUISE THOMPSON.

Snow Camp, N. C., Dec. 14, 1914.

Dear Santa Claus:—

I am a little boy 3 years old. I live at Snow Camp. I want you to bring me some bananas, mixed nuts, apples, raisins, a hatchet and hammer and little gloves. Please bring these to me, dear Santa Claus.

Your little friend, THOMAS McVEY.

Burlington, N. C., Dec. 14, 1914.

Dear Santa Claus:—

Would be very glad if you would bring me a big doll. I am ten years old. I enjoy playing with dolls very much. I have a little brother eight years old that would like to have a drum and a little sister 6 years old. I would like to have a doll and a little carriage and we all would like to have some candy and pea nuts.

Well, Goodbye. From PRECIOUS COUNCILMAN.

WANTS "POST TOASTIES."

Spray, N. C., Dec. 16, 1914.

Dear Santa Claus:—

I am a little boy three years old and live in the hilly town of Spray. Mama anys you will not get to this

12-Year Old Girl Missing

R. H. Pethel, of Kannapolis, Here Last Night, Searching For His Daughter—Left with J. A. Stallings.

Greensboro, Dec. 18.—R. H. Pethel, of armer living at Kannapolis, 60 miles south of here on the main line of the Southern railway, was here last night searching for his 12-year-old daughter and her abductor. The child left the home of a schoolmate Wednesday night with James A. or Ira Stallings, who told her that her mother was sick.

Mr. Pethel's daughter, whose name is Demia, was in school at Landis, two miles from Kannapolis and on Wednesday afternoon went to the home of her schoolmate near there to spend the night. It was here that Stallings went to see the girl and gave her the fake message, for her mother was at home well, and the two left. It was learned yesterday that a man answering the description of Stallings, had purchased a ticket to Greensboro, and there were reasons to believe they might have continued on to Winston-Salem, he asking if No. 12 would connect with the Winston-Salem train.

It developed also that practically all the child's clothing was missing from her home. No one was there during the afternoon of Wednesday and she did not take her clothes with her. Mr. Pethel believed Stallings had entered the home and secured the clothing in their absence. There was no doubt that the man and girl previously had arranged their escape.

Mr. Pethel, having the appearance of an honest and hard working farmer, was greatly distressed last night over the absence from home of his daughter. "The rest of them at home were crying all day," he said, revealing the catastrophe as it was felt in their home.

He thought Stallings was his friend, the man, who had worked at a cotton mill, having called at his place frequently. Stallings was said to have gone to Kannapolis from Gastonia 3 or four years ago. His calls had been received as to the family and not as to the girl and there was no inkling that they had any such thing in mind as running away. The man had said he had been married and that his wife had gone away. He claimed also to be a preacher.

Stallings was described as a man weighing about 140 pounds, being five feet, 6 inches tall. He has blue eyes and a round, clean shaven face with fairly good color. He wore a derby at times and also a red hat at other times.

The girl is of good size, has blue eyes and dark brown hair. It was not known how she was dressed. The police authorities have been notified and Mr. Pethel, although of meager means is exerting every effort in his power to reclaim his daughter and bring the alleged frind to halt.

Mr. Pethel met with a valuable friend here last night in a traveling man of Virginia, to whom he confided his trouble. This gentleman spent a good part of the evening with the farmer in search of clues and in spreading the information where it might bring best results.

BIGGER, BETTER, BURLINGTON IN MOVIES.

Bigger Better Burlington in moving pictures at The Grotto was witnessed by more than 1,000 people last night. The schools, homes, business streets, churches and mills and a thousand feet of North Carolina events were shown. Everyone was well pleased with the pictures.

FAILURE TO ELECT HOMEWOOD CAPTAIN CAUSES DISSENSION.

Carolina Students and Friends of the Great Player Freely Criticize Athletic System Which Closes Door of Opportunity to One Who Does Not Belong to Greek Letter Fraternity—He is one of the Most Deserving Athletes That Ever Wore a Blue and White Sweater.

By S. R. Winters.

Chapel Hill, Dec. 7.—Viewed in the retrospective, whatever may have been the unrealized hopes of the 1914 football season at the University of North Carolina, there stands out in bold relief a single figure with an unchallenged athletic career in the history of university athletics. Over against the background of commonplace incidents of outchdowns made and goals kicked in the season's count, this football warrior who mixed aspiration with perspiration will loom large in other years. The athlete who has demonstrated for three years that a college course, self-support and athletics are a perfectly possible combination will be counted great for having converted his athletic process into a battle for self-support in obtaining an education.

Roy McRae Homewood, for three years playing the greatest game of football of any representative of the White and Blue, and pronounced the logical candidate to captain the 1915 football squad, goes unrewarded of the honors that could not have been more worthily bestowed. He finishes his athletic career with the end of the 1915 season—the introduction of the double-term departure in the selection of a football captain flouted merit in the face and the door of opportunity was closed against any new-comer.

Carolinian students and friends of Roy Homewood are freely criticizing any athletic system that permits of such a procedure.

PERSEVERING YOUTH.

The unrewarded merit of Roy Homewood lends a large perspective to the event athletic career of this persevering youth who for three years has met the requirements of the classroom, spent the afternoons on the athletic field and earned his college expenses in hours when his team-mates were possibly enjoying comfortable leisure. He did not husband and Greek letter fraternity pin which might alleviate his journey along the route, he possesses no false pride, but throughout his tenure of esrvic on the team has traveled unerringly the road of merit—the only pathway worth while in the great game of life. He has had no fraternity to champion, his interests or ring as a lever power from which to draw from in strengthening his football arm.

The upward climb of this 21-year-old youngster as a football player from an undeveloped athlete coming from a farm in Alamance county is a story that is quite as inspiring as the tale of how he is earning two-fifths of his college expenses and ranking high in his class-room studies.

The tribute paid the sterling football right wing by Quarterback "Bobbie" Gooch, Virginia's first player of the past decade, as he triumphantly ended his football career Thanksgiving, is typical of many encomiums that have been bestowed upon the Tar Heel football warrior. As Gooch emerged from the exhaustive gridiron contest against Carolina on Thanksgiving afternoon, he remarked to one of his team-mates, "Homewood is the greatest player that has crossed my

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Read "Zudora" In This Paper on Last Page.

A WORTHY RECORD.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Piedmont Trust Company on December 5th, the capital stock was increased to \$100,000, making it the largest financial institution in Alamance County.

This action was taken because of the marvelous growth of the business, and in order to get ready for the great era of prosperity which is coming. The Company has made a worthy record with a smaller capital. With the increased capital, the Company will be enabled to do greater things than in the past.

At the meeting of the Directors of the said Company on the same date, a stock dividend of 250% was declared, and 16% was left in the treasury as undivided profits.

In the ten years of the history of the company it has paid out in stock and cash dividends 404%, or an average of 40% each year, in addition to paying 7% each year on its outstanding preferred stock.

This should be very satisfactory to the stockholders, and is a prophecy of what the future holds for those who are so fortunate as to own Piedmont Trust Company common stock.

The present stockholders of the Company have, of course, the first option on the new stock which is to be issued and they have already subscribed for a large part of this. Therefore there will not be a large amount of common stock offered to the public. This stock will be sold at par in shares of \$100 each. In addition to the common stock of the Company a limited amount of preferred stock will be offered to the public. This preferred stock is cumulative, non-assessable, non-taxable, with a guaranteed dividend of 7% per annum which is payable in semi-annual installments, and is, therefore a splendid investment for surplus funds.

DURHAM NEGRO GETS IN A LOT OF TROUBLE.

Durham, Dec. 18.—Spencer Suits, a negro hack driver, went just a little too far yesterday afternoon when he insulted a young married lady of the city and as a result he received a stinging blow in the face at the hands of her husband and his carriage license was revoked by the police department.

Suits is alleged to have made an insulting proposal to the young lady who ran across her husband a short distance from the scene and informed him of the incident.

The husband found Suits and asked him what he meant by the insult. Suits denied it, but this did not satisfy the husband and he struck the negro a stinging blow in the face and then yanked him to the police station. Chief of Police Freeland immediately ordered Suits's license revoked and stated that he would revoke many other carriage licenses if drivers of these were suspicious of similar conduct.

BURLINGTON BAKERY DOING SOME BUSINESS.

Mr. George A. Garrison, proprietor of the new bakery, received an order from Kansas City Wednesday for Christmas cakes. Also one from Roanoke, Va. Mr. Garrison has remodelled the interior of his building and has new show cases to display his cakes and pies in, and is ready for the inspection of the ladies. The bakery is only about a week old, and is certainly making a good record.