

BY JAMES P. COOK.

OFFICE IN CASTOR BUILDING

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CONCORD, DEC. 31, 1895.

THE YEAR IS DONE.

How time does fly! It seems but a while since we, sitting at the very same place, wrote some parting remarks to 1894. Now here it is 1895, about spent, never to return.

There is a sadness about the parting year. Why should we jubilate over its death? If it was bad with you—why should you not wish to change the bad to good before the year dies; if it was good with you—why should you not desire it to remain longer that you could make the good better and accomplish more.

No, it is sad to part with an acquaintance forever if he proves at all endurable. Why then glory over the eternal parting of a known and light-hearted and full of joy into the unknown.

We know what 1895 is—many have prospered; many have suffered, but there is not one who can say that it could not have been worse, or that God did not bestow upon him many a blessing and show him many a mercy, undeserved and unappreciated.

With us as a town and county, blessings have been showered upon the people as never before. The county people have been happy, or ought to have been, with peace, plenty and health; in Concord evidences of growth and improvements have multiplied as the days went by. The health has been better than common. And right here some of us pause as the thought comes with its burden of sadness, but not without submission, that there is a missing one—some loved one has gone before us to the Beyond. It might be hard to understand why the All-ruling Hand has taken this father or mother, this sister or brother, or perchance that little innocent child—plucked it from its parent-stem, as it were, and transplanted it in a blime into which our eyes refuse to see or which our minds fail to understand with that certainty and knowledge of its surroundings that make solemn thoughts and wonderings unnecessary. But God does the best—his ways are just and right. Let not this make us sad.

Space proves inadequate when we are about to enumerate the progressive strides here in our town. We cannot attempt it. But all the way down as far as we can see, we see improvements.

No eye can fathom 1896. It is gratifying to know and to feel that prospects are bright, inviting. This is more than we had at the beginning of 1895, and much more than

we had at the beginning of 1894.

Let us all do our duty in 1896; let there be no strife, but may a peaceful co-operation abound when matters of common good are under consideration.

Let us all remember that the Lord helps those who try to help themselves.

Honor to whom honor is due: When we come to realize how well hundreds and hundreds of our people have fared in holding remunerative work and indirectly every interest of the town has been aided, we can not forbear from wishing for more Odells and Cannons. THE STANDARD regards them absolutely indispensable to the town's best interests. They have built wisely—may 1896 be as profitable to them as the years gone.

Senator Harris stuck spurs in Senator Butler, on Monday. What was thought, up to that time, an innocent kind of a thing, flew into a great sweeping rage and spit fire until the whole Senate chamber was ablaze with a gas illumination. Might as well twist a cat's tail as to twist Senator Butler's.

She—Why does a woman take a man's name when she gets married? He—Why does she take everything else he's got?—New York Truth.

A resolution is not worth a continental unless there is a little DOING mixed with it.

A Excellent Record.

The big rush of travel for Atlanta that has been going on day and night since the Exposition opened, is now over, and railroad traffic will subside to its normal volume. It is reasonable to expect that the trains will now be able to make their regular schedules. People who have not given the matter much thought, have no idea of the strain and tension under which the railroad men have worked for over three months past, and it has been particularly severe upon the men in the Charlotte office, for the trains from the main line and all the branches were gathered in their hands and run over their stem between Charlotte and Atlanta. In addition to the regular and extra passenger trains, they have had freight trains at almost every siding to move, and with but a single line of track and no extra side lines, they have managed the trains with singular skill and ability. There has not been an accident to a passenger train. In all this great and rushing traffic, the railroad has lost but two men, Conductor Hunt and Engineer Curlee, and in neither case was the road to blame. In not a single instance is it found that the men who direct the running of the trains made a mistake. The system of train dispatching has been well-nigh perfect, and it is a credit to the management of the Southern.—Charlotte News.

Big Fire at Bennettsville.

CHARLESTON, S. C. Dec. 29.—A special to the News and Courier from Bennettsville says: Last night at 1 o'clock fire broke out, this time totally consuming the Rogers hotel with half its contents, Mrs. L. Leggs store and entire contents, Mr. John S. Moor's furniture store and contents, Mr. Jno. Douglass' drug store and nine-tenth of the contents, and damaging the stocks of J. H. Mitchell and George W. Waddill, general merchandise, fully one-half. About covered by insurance, except Mrs. Rogers, who had no insurance. Loss on stocks and buildings about \$20,000.

N. C. R. R. Charter.

Every one to his notion, is about what the old woman said when she kissed the cow, but it strikes us that at the biggest fool notion we have ever heard of is the effort to compel the North Carolina Railroad to forfeit its charter.

If Butler should be successful the State would not only be a big loser, but private stockholders also, whereas the Southern Railway people would probably be better off in the long run than they are now, for if the charter is forfeited and the road is placed in the hands of a receiver this company could likely buy the whole business at less than what the lease is costing.

But we adhere to the belief that application to the Attorney General was made with the idea that he would refuse, thus making an issue for next year's campaign. We can't believe that even Butler wants to see the State's interests completely wrecked.

The matter is to come before the Supreme Court, elected by Butler and his crowd, and if they should decide against him he would then have to shut up and get off the track.

The whole thing is about as foolish a piece of business as we have ever heard of.—Greensboro Record.

A SPECIFIC FOR La Grippe, for Colds, Coughs, AND LUNG TROUBLES, AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL

"Two years ago, I had the grippe, and it left me with a cough which gave me no rest night or day. My family physician prescribed for me, changing the medicine as often as he found the things I had taken were not helping"



me, but, in spite of his attendance, I got no better. Finally, my husband,—reading one day of a gentleman who had had the grippe and was cured by taking Ayer's Cherry Pectoral,—procured, for me, a bottle of this medicine, and before I had taken half of it, I was cured. I have used the Pectoral for my children and in my family, whenever we have needed it, and have found it a specific for colds, coughs, and lung troubles."—Emily Wood, North St., Elkton, Md.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral Highest Honors at World's Fair. Cleanse the System with Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Give us your job printing, it will be promptly, neatly and cheaply done.

You cannot find a better advertising medium in Cabarrus County than the WEEKLY STANDARD, which goes to more homes than any other paper circulating in Cabarrus.

Subscription to the WEEKLY STANDARD is \$1.00 per annum, in advance.

RACKET STORE!

We save you 25 to 33 per cent, on your

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. DOLLS from 1 to 68c.

Our stock of dolls is far superior to anything we have ever had, and fully 25 per cent cheaper than you can buy anywhere. 150 DOZEN 150 Ladies' and Gents' cotton, linen and silk handkerchiefs for the holidays. Handsome

CHINA WARE. LEATHER, WOOD

Japanese Vases at less than wholesale prices. Cups and saucers large enough to use, at 5 cents. Children's A B C plates up to fine PLUSH - ALBUMS

CHINA CAKE PLATES Candy 7 1/2 cents per pound. Children's Books, 1 to 5c. Gilt edge, red lined poems, 55c. Teachers' Oxford Bibles \$1.75 to 2.00; Ladies solid gold gem setting rings at 75cts to 1.50, worth 50 per cent more. Satin pin cushions 20 to 48 cents. A nice assortment of gents neckwear for presents.

LAMPS. LAMPS! from 48 cents to \$5.50 each.

TOYS cheaper than you can buy any where—from 1 cent up. Doll carriages from 90 cents to 1.68. Hobby horses \$1.24 to 1.89. both American and French—5 to 55 cents. Baskets 1 to \$1.24 each. Japanese Bronze Tray, 12x18, \$3.50.

THE RACKET, D. J. BOSTIAN, Proprietor.