THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

Devoted to the Protection of Home and the Interests of the County.

Vol. II.

GASTONIA, GASTON

4, 1881.

No. 51.

"Christmas Is Near."

Christmas is near and I am glad, Because it always brings Such gladness to us little folks, And lots of pretty things.

I'd like to have a doll, of course, With pretty clothes to wear; A carriage, and a parasol-A little rocking chair;

And lots of candy, and a book With pretty pictures through it; A little thimble-then I'd sew. For I know how to do it.

I guess I'll have a spelling book, For fear I'd be a dunce; I'd like to have-O I can't think

But then, I have a kind mamma-I guess I'll wait and see : Papa, mamma love me so, They know what's best for me

And they can tell dear Santa Claus

To bring just what they please; I know he don't like little folks To ask for things, or tease. -Kind Words

A CHRISTMAS STORY.

It is Christmas Eve! The scene is the home of a wealthy family at Indianapolis, Indiana. A handsome dressed lady, of fine appearance, is speaking to her daugh-

'Well, dear, what did you buy.'

'O, ever so many things mother ! Mr. Monroe's store was full of the nicest and prettiest things you ever saw.'

'I suppose the shop windows presented a very attractive appearance, as it is Christmas Eve.

'Indeed they did mother! Harry says he never saw them look so beautiful before."

'I hope you did not get your feet wet.' Both Harry and I had on our rubbers, mother, and although the snow was quite deep, they kept our feet dry.'

But where are your purchases? dear? and what makes your brother look so

Harry was standing with his hands in his great coat pockets, not appearing to enter into the joyousness of his sister's

'O mother, I forgot! To night, just as we walked up to Mr. Monroe's window, I heard some one sigh deeply, and looking up I may a woman dressed so strangely. Sue had on clothes so different from ours, and looked so wretched and forlorn. She held the hand of the funniest looking little child you ever saw, and she was dressed, O so oddly? They locked like people from another country. I don't think the queer little midget ever saw a shop window before. I could'nt help saying, "Did your child ever see anything like this before?" The woman turned and gazed upon me with dark sad, looking eyes, and replied 'Hettie never saw anything like this before but she and I too, would rather have a good piece of bread, than anything in that window,' 'Have you no bread for her at home? I asked. 'Home! We've got no home? Your army broke up our homedestroyed everything, and I had to come here or starve 'Who are you and where are you from?' 'We're Confederate refugees. The yankee army jost swept away everything. My husband is in the army and, as I had no home, I came to Indiana to look for a brother. But I have spent all my money and have nothing to eat and

no place to sleep.' 'And what did you say then, dear? asked Mrs. Abbot.

'I told her she might come and stay with us, As soon as we made our purchases, Harry lifted the little Midget in the carriage, and they came home with

'Mercy on me, child? What do you mean? Who is the woman?' inquired the mother excitedly.

'Don't be angry mother, please! I could not do otherwise. They are in the carriage at the front door. I thought it best to let her remain there until I saw you. She is a poor woman and a stranger; and I could not help thinking of what Mr. Phelps said last Sunday about the words of the Text. 'I was hungry and ye gave me meat, I was thirsty and ye gave me drink I was a stranger and ye took me in.' Mother please let me bring ber in !

Mrs. Abbot was a christain, and Christmas-time had a mellow enfluence on her heart, and the text just quoted aroused the brothers) an aged man entered the all her christian charity. The consequence office, saying he had come to pay an old wee, that in a few minutes, the woman debt. He was from Cape Cod, and his and child so strangely dressed, were sitting bowed form, and humble dress and hard by a warm fire. Some hot coffee and hands, indicated that his life had been one biscuits were given them, and, contrary to of struggles and sorrows. My brother all their expectation, they slept that night (says the parrator) turned to his desk and in a warm, luxurious bed. The next day found the old man's name on the 'forgiven the lady told her story. Contending armies list.' 'Your note is out-law.d,' said be; had devustated her country, broken up her 'it was dated twelve years ugo, payable family, destroyed her home and left her in two years .- No interest has ever been houseless, homeless, pennikss, with this paid; you are not bound to pay this note, little one dependent on her. A kind Federal We can never recover the amount." officer recommended her to come to Indiana, 'Sir,' said the old man, 'I wish to pay it, on your nose.

ville. Kv. Somewhere in Indiana she world. It may be outlawed here, but I had some kinsfolk whom she hoped to find; have no child, and my old woman and I The but now all her money was gone and she hope we have made our peace with God. knew not what to do. Very thankful was and wish to do so with man. I should like she to God for giving her so much of to pey it.' And he laid his bank-notes beconfort that Christmas day. Poor women! fore my brother, requesting him to count She locked gaunt and sorrowtal. Her own them over. cothes, and those of her poor little forlorn looking child were coarse and most unseemly | brother. in the eyes of Mrs. Al bot and her family But the spirit of Christmas now burned cost the simple interest for twelve years. brightly in their breasts. Neward appro- and a little over,' said ie. I will pay you po printe clothing was purchased; a home and a compound interest, if you request A a suitable occupation were found ere long. The old debt ought to have been paid long for the refugees and by degrees fullness ago; but your lather, sir was very indulcame back to their features, roses to their cheeks, and sparkles of joy to their eye

Of all the happiness brought to the Abb

family by the Christma of 1965, the

two Southern refugees was the sweetest.

Months and even years rolled by, Peace smiled on our land. Plenty and prosperity took the place of ruin and devastation in the South. Harvests and crops, year after year brought back much of the oldtime to pay them. comfort and wealth to the South. Gardens and South became more and more friendly, after years of strife and estraogement. The warm sunny South, with its genial sunshine and balmy air, invited many northern fl eked to Georgia and Florida. One cold made up the sum within twenty dollars. and rainy winter day, the train on the-Railroad in Georgia was accidently thrown the from its track, wrecked. Among the to se travelers was a family from Indiana. One of them was a beautiful maiden, a victim of consumption.

'O,' said the mother, 'Is there no house to which we can carry Nora? This ex- repeat the very words she used when she posure will kill her. I fear.' And she appeakd to the gentlemanly conductor.

There is a very comfortable house close by,' said the conductor "and the people are kind and hospitable. Perhaps they will recive your famil. for a short while under the circumstances. I will go and see if you

'I will be greatly obliged. Harry, you go with the conductor : your father and I

will take care of Nora.' Within an hour the Abbot family were safely sheltered in a bospitable Southern mansion. Every possible comfort was provided for the family, and nothing was left undone that might alleviate their distress

'It seems to me that I have seen you before,' said Mrs. Abbot to the lady of the

'Yes,' was the reply. 'You received me and Hettie into your home on Christmas Eve of 1865. I returned home some years ago, on finding that my hosband had not been killed in the war, as I heard; and the Lord has prospered him, as you see, This is our home. We have several chil dren now, besides Hettie.' Hettie was now a beautiful and blooming maiden, nearly wenty years of age.

How swiftly and happy flew the hours and days! The word departure was banished temporarily from the bousehold. Winter and spring passed, and with the genial clime wrought a great cure for her. Her cough left her; paleness took its flight: her form grew strong and healthly.

The bread cast upon the waters had returned after many days.

The following Christmas another trip was made to Georgia by the Abbot family, and a glorious time they had. When they returned, a Georgia flower was borne away with them ; for Harry had wedded the 'queer little midget' whom he had once litted into the carriage one Christmas eve. -S. B., in Kind Words.

An Affecting Incident.

A Boston merchant dying, left among his papers a parcel of unpaid bills against poor debtors, with a written suggestion to his sons that perhaps the claims might as well be destroyed, as collecting them would undoubtedly cause distress. The young men made a careful schedule of the claims, and placed a large proportion of the debtor's name on the 'forgiven list,'-never intend-

ing to collect them. One day, shortly afterward, (says one of

and had paid her way on the cars to Louis- It is the only heavy debt I have in

'I cannot take this money,' said my

The old man became alarmed, 'I lave

which arose from kind treatment the bills, returned them to the old man's pocketbook, telling him that although our father left to formal will, he had recommended his children to destroy certain notes, due, bills, and other evidences of bebt, and release those who might be legally bound

For a moment the old man appeared to bloomed, orchards yielded their fruit, and be stupified. After he had collected house-holds were happy once more. North himself, and wiped the tears from his eyes,

'From the time I heard of your father's death, I have raked and scraped and pinched and spared, to get the money together to invalids in search of health, and they pay the debt. About ten days ago, I had

> so; and now, wat will my old weman say? I must get back to the Cape and tell her this good news. She'll probably put her hand on my shoulder, as we parted -'I have never seen the righteous forsaken or his seed begging their bread,'

> 'Giving each of us a hearty shake of the hand, a blessing upon our dead father's memory, he went on his way rejoicing."

DISAGREEABLE HABITS.

people take up, come at first from mere don't walk on pavements all the time. A accident, or want of thought. They ment country hav walks on a dirt floor. He easily be dropped, but they are persisted works all over and he dances all over. A in until they become second nature. Stop town boy can fight a right good fight for and think before you allow yourself to form two or three minutes, but a country boy them. There are di-agreeable habits of can fight all day. They say the town-boys body, like scowling, winking, twisting th mouth, biting the nails, continually picking and I reckon they did, but the country at semething, twirling a key or fumbling boys had the most endurance. I mean the at a chain, drumming with the fingers, country boys who had been raised liberally. screwing and twisting a chair or whatever There were lots of poor fellows who never you lay your hands on. Don't do any of bad a good meal of vittles, and grew up these things. Learn to sit quietly like a pale and sickly, who gave out pretty soon, gentleman, I was going to say, but I am for they were cowed and backed before afraid even girls fall into such tricks they started; but I noticed that the sons sometimes. There are much worse habits of our comfortable farmers held out better than these, to be sure; but we are speaking than anybody. They had better constituonly of these little things that are only annoying when they are persisted in. There are habits of speech, also, such as beginning every speech with "you ke," know," "pow-a," "I don't what," "tell ye now"; indistreet w flowers of spring came back the rese to sharp, pasal tones; avoid them all. Stop Nora's cheeks. Kindness, happiness and a and think what you are going to say, and then let every word drop from your lips izst sa perfect as a new silver coip. Have a care about your way of sitting and standing and walking. Before you know it you will find that your habits have they were not raised there. hardened into a coat of mail that you cannot get rid of without terrible affort.

GREAT THINGS.

The greatest cataract in the world is he Falls of Niagara.

The largest cavern, the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky, which is said to be 27 miles bribe a witness, or fool the jury, but a hors they shall find none iniquity in me

miles in extent.

The largest valley, that of the Missisippi--its area 5,000,000 square miles. The greatest city park that of Phila-

delphia, containing 2,700 acres. The greatest grain port in the world Chicago.

The longest railroad, the Pacific Rail-

oad, over 3,000 miles in extent. The most huge mass of solid iron is Picircumference 2 miles

Tue biggest lake, Lake Superior.

The best specimen of architecture. Girard College, Philadelphia. The largest aqueduct, the Ceroton, of

New York-length, forty and one half, cost \$12,500,000. The longest bridge, the elevated railroad in Third Avenue New York.

The largest and highest trees are California, over 300 feet high.

LIFE ON THE FARM

Children

Dixie Farmer. nd vears ago a philosopher of Horace wrote a great town and country, and be both and then summed up for the rich man to hve in and death was sure, a man ttle down in the country as

their youth have the poorest age, and like Solomon are claim, 'Vanity of vanities, all way is to raise children to

arn their living-and the best hem is in the country on a farm. way to make money and it's all he beter for that. Money made slow is noney rade sure. A dollar dug out of the rounds worth five dollars made in town, and is litter than a hundred dollars given

n going to shows and frolicking around. which ain't so bad if it wasn't for the bits. He gets so after a while that he is stways hankering after shows and some new excitement. The country to him is an awful dull place. He has more time to study; but a town boy doesn't want to think. It's not his brain he wants to exsreise, but it's his emotions and passions. A young man ought to spend three or

four years in the country, if for nothing else but his good health-his constitution, It will build him up and expand him. A country boy can't dance as gracefully and Nearly all the disagreeable habits which skip round cat-like as a town boy, for he tions. A town boy's liver is always getting out of order, and a town girl don't eat pretty well used up, and has to go to the

have to be raised on the bottle, she springs every summer and be doctored and physicked the balance of her career. Who ever heard of country folks going to the springs for their health? There are lots of good, strong, healthy men in the cities, but

Farming has been sorter under the ban ever since I can remember. The mechanic ranked the farmer, and the merchant ranked the mechanic, and the lawyers and the members of Congress ranked everyfront, and the lawyers loosing ground, A modern lawyer can loose the papers or crop nor the Creator out of a shower. He feels his dependence all the time, and it keeps him properly humbled, and if Bob Ingersoll had to make his living that way he would have been a different sort of man. Farming is the oldest business we have it but a poor man can't.

Well, I've got nothing against the cities or towns. I know we are obliged to have em, but they are poor places to raise children in. It's an accident if they make good citizens and grow up, healthy. I never saw a man get rich in a city by trading and speculating that didn't banker after a home in the country with springs and branches and a meadow and fine colts and calves, by saying that the town was and sheep grazing around when he gets surfeited with theatres and traveling shows ry was the best place for a and Salveny and Sal Burnbart and all e m, and inasmuch as riches the other Sals, he longs for the solitude and innocence, and quiet of a country. home. But then its most always too late. ald and be content. That is His children have got a taste for society ith its follies and excitment and they

You't A rich man's a a city are about as them for wanting to enjoy it; has got through a college and received a in India have been regretfully turned away fixed that those who have the diploma printed in Latin which he couldn't for lack of accomm dation. translate if he was going to be hung.

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

That milk that is turned or changed may be sweetened and rendered fit for use again by stirring in a little soda.

That salt will curdle new milk ; hence in prepairing milk porridge, gravies, etc., the during the last ten years has been 3,500. salt should not be added until the dish is prepared.

That fresh meats, after begining to get , will sweeten if placed out of doors night.

That clear boiling water will remove a stains and many fruit stains. Pour the water througe the stain and thus prevent it spreading over the fabric.

That ripe tomatoes-will remove ink and other stains from white cloths and also from the bands.

That a tablespoonful of turpentine boil ed with your white clothes will aid the whitening process.

That boiled starch is very much improved by the addition of a little sperm, or both, or a little salt, or both, or a little gum arabic dissolved.

That blue ointment and kerosene mixed in equal proportions, and applied to bed steads, is an un'ailing bed-bug remedy, and that a coat of white-wash is ditto for the wall of a log house.

That cool rainwater and soda will remove machine grease from washable

THE DEACON'S NEW PREACHER.

drunkard, as he set his jug down hard on quarters of the globe. the counter in the store of Deacon Bartolette, who, in bad old times, used to keep a country grocery and sell liquor, "I can't do it. said Deacon Bartolette.

"You can't do it." responded the old toper, in measured tones.

"And I should like to know why?" Why ?" answered the Deacon, in a tone of mingled surprise and righteous indignation-" Why because the law don't allow me to sell less than a quart." Ugh! and is that it?" growled the toper. Then looking the deacon right in the eye, he said. with an emphasis that fairly made the old man tremble: "Deacon Bartolette, if you are no better than the law makes you, you will go to hell sure."

This was exactly in accordance with the deacon's own theology.

He could not deny it : but it was a sermon from a new preacher, and quite unlooked for, and the good man began to think. He saw that was living by law rather than tove.

He thought of the merchant spoken of body; but the farmers are coming to the by the prophet, who, in ungodly self-gratification, said. "I am become rich. I have found me out substance, yet in all my lafarmer can't fool the soil he works on and that were sin." And thereupon Deacon The largest river the Mississippi-4,000 all his labor and toil and sweat is honest. Bartolette stopped selling rum by the There is no cheating the ground out of a quart as well as by the pint, least indeed as a toper had said, "the devil should get him sure."- Rev. J. S. Holme.

TALK TO THE CHILDREN.

Children hunger perpetually for new any account of. Old Father Adam entailed ideas. The will learn with pleasure from the on us the power of thorns and thistles and tips of parents what they deem drudgery bull nettles, and cuckle burs, and tread to study in books; and even if they have saft, and Cain disgraced his occupation by the misfortune to be deprived of many lot Knob of Missouri-beight 250 feet, not giving to the Lord the choice of his educational advantages, they will grow up crop, but it is the salvation of all civilized intelligent people. We sometimes see parcountries and a first-class farmer comes ents who are the life of every company nearer fulfilling man's manifest destiny which they enter, dull, silent and uninterthan any other profession. But I wouldn't esting at home among their children. If just such girls, and you had better brace farm on poor land nor with poor tools and they have not mental activity and mental poor stock-I'd live in town first-I'd hire stores sufficient for both, let them first use Register. out on the railroad; or dig in the mices at what they have for their own households. a dollar a day, or clerk in a cross roads A silent home is a duil place for young store, or run for the Legislature. Ten acres people-a place from which they will est to see him in his absence. 'A lady,' be store, or run for the Legislature. Ten acres cape if they can. How much useful information, and what unconscious, but ex Show your colors, but don't show them afford to own some poor land and improve ment. Cultivate to the uturest the art of up and added: 'O dot was no lady; dot conversation at home,

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

In the last ten years the number of churches in Chicago has increased from from 156 to 218.

There is a congregation of colored catholic in Marion county, Ky., with 179 com-

The members of the Presbyterian comgregation of the Rev. A. B. Mackay, Montreal, have given, the past year, \$149, 000 for theological education.

The Episcopal diocese of Pittsbarg reports forty-eight clergy, seventy-four churches and chapels, and 5,838 commupicants. The confirmations during the nd as for work they just year were 416.

It is said that b

e average young man who miles to attend the Telegu Baptist schools

The Lutherans are very strong in Missouri. They have 630 ministers, 818 congregations and 225 " preaching stations." Last year 18,735 children were baptized, and 8,380 were confirmed.

The Free Baptists of New Burnswick have added 344 communicants and received \$25,000 for church purposes during the past year. The increase in communicants

The Methodist Episcopal church South has eleven mission stations along the Rio Grande and the Mexican border, with sixty-one preaching-places, 447 church members and 373 Sunday-school schools.

The report of the American board shows an increase of seventeen missionaries, 100 preaching-places, 2,500 common school and 300 high school scholars, and more than 2,000 additions to the mission churches.

The California Methodists have begun to raise a "Haven memorial fund of \$10. 000 in memory of the late Bishop Haven who died in Oregon, for perfecting the library, cabinets, etc., of the University of the Pacific.

The fiftieth annual Episcopal Diocesan convention of Alabams reported twentyseven clergy and 3.615 communicants. The confirmations of the past year number 216 and the baptisms 259. The total of contributions was \$47,546.

A Lutheran Ecumenical council is now called for. The Luthern Visitor believes that such a conference would be perhaps ope of the greatest meetings ever held. and asserts that, instead of a few milli-n of Culvanists or Armenians, it would re-"Give me a pint of rum," said an old present 50,000,000 Lutherans from all

THE TRUE WIFE.

Oftentimes I have seen a tall ship glide by against the tide as if drawn by some invisible bowline, with a hundred strong arms pulling it. Her sails were unfurled, her streamers were drooping, she had neither side wheel nor stern wheel; still she moved on stately, in serene triumph, as with her own life. But I knew that on the other side of the ship, bidden beneath the great bulk that swung so majestically. there was a little toilsome steam tug, with a heart of fire and arms of iron, that was tugging it bravely on, and I knew if the little steam tug untwined her arm and left the ship it would wallow and roll about and drift hither and thither, and go off with the refluent tide ; no man knows whither. And so I have known more than one genius, high-decked, full-freighted, idlesailed, gay-pennoned, but that for the bare, toiling arms and brave, warm-beating beart of the faithful little wife that nestles close to him so that no wind or wave could part them, would have gone down with the stream, and have been heard of no more,-Oliver Wendell Holmes.

PRACTICAL ANGELS.

Prof. Swing says "angels are not popular nowadays." And it pains us to say that be is right. Beautiful specimens of feminicity clad in gauze and souring about in the upper ether on pinions of fluff are useless in these practical days. Give us a girl who can play an overture on the kitchen stove in the morning, play the hard and soft pedal to a rewing machine in the afternoon, and accompany you in a two part song on the piano in the evening. when the lights are low, and you have an article infinitely superior to an angel. And, young men, the world is filling up with up to your opportunities,-New Haven

He was informed that a lady had called mused aloud; 'a lady.' Upon an accurate description, he suddenly brightened