

At this time when the people with such unanimity are commending the action of the administration in its prompt and earnest efforts to bring confidence to the financial world by issuing bonds and certificates of credit, we remember that once on a time another President, one Grover Cleveland, surrendered party popularity and dared the denunciations of those who had lifted him into his exalted station by doing an almost similar thing. For a long time his very name was cursed. But it has fallen to his happy lot to live to see his vindication, and to know that his name is an illustrious one, having become the synonym of fearless performance of public duty. And as the decades pass and the people of this nation are able to look in dispassionate criticism upon his official life, greater and greater will their gratitude become that he performed his duty and was unafraid.

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**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1907.**

**ROOSEVELT AND THE TRUSTS.**  
There is one question above all others in our national life at this time. It is that of trusts or large combinations of capital. Men of all parties are agreed in this. And it is not surprising that the President, in his message, enters into a lengthy discussion of the subject. The result of his thinking is that it is useless to attempt to prevent combination of capital; that it is not only impossible, but undesirable on the ground that it would make impossible, if it could be accomplished, much legitimate industry. He believes that the only practicable thing is government supervision and control of such combinations. He contends that there is a difference in so-called trusts and that the difference lies in the manner of their use of the power in their hands. A bad trust, according to Mr. Roosevelt, is one guilty of "rendering service at an actual loss for the purpose of crushing out competition, or of 'inflation of capital,' or of 'making exclusive trade with itself a condition of having any trade with itself.'"

**UNPUBLISHED M'NEILL POEM.**  
Written For Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Dockery Last November on the Occasion of Their Wedding — Fulfilled the First Great Requisite of a Poet.

I hand you herewith a copy of a poem by John Charles McNeill, which, I think, has not been published. Mr. McNeill was an attendant at the marriage of Mr. A. S. Dockery and Miss Mary Ledbetter, in Rockingham, in November of last year. He gave this poem, in autograph, and read it in the light of subsequent events, how sad it is. In less than a year he was dead; and their greatest desire of grief could not be shared by him, for it was at his bier. The fine sentiment of loyalty breathed in the last lines was as true as Charlie McNeill as of any clansman who ever wore the plaid.

To Mary Ledbetter and A. S. Dockery on their wedding day:  
There will be days when we shall laugh;  
There may be nights for weeping;  
We know not yet what cup to quaff  
Fate hath within her keeping.  
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**POLICEMAN WON'T PAY DEBTS.**  
Chairman Page, of the police committee, reported one policeman who would not pay his debts and asked what should be done in his case. Mr. Oates also held a bill against the man who was asked about letters him by another party. Another member knew of several firms whom the man owed and wouldn't pay. It was agreed that the police committee should investigate this matter and make a report to the next meeting. The opinion being that the cop must be disposed of, unless he pays his debts.

**FINE DOG KILLED.**  
One of Mr. C. M. Creswell's Splendid Pointers Struck by a Street Car and Later Killed.

A fine pointer belonging to Mr. C. M. Creswell was struck by a street car at the intersection of South Tryon and Fourth streets last night and injured so seriously that it was shortly after killed by Patrolman Cliff Bell, who heard its moanings from the square. The left thigh of the dog was badly broken and Mr. Bell thought he was doing a merciful act when he sent two bullets through its brain. The dog was some token of its existence, or by a sort of canine reasoning as to approaching fate, the dog snarled Mr. Bell's shoe just before he pulled his gun and bit the entire toe off. Mr. Creswell prized the pointer very highly.

**Distinguished Yarn Men Here.**  
Messrs. Grinnell Willis, Ridley Watts and Elwyn W. Poor, of the firm of Grinnell Willis & Co., yarn dealers, of New York, were visitors in the city yesterday, stopping at the Seelye.

**Fire in the Buford Hotel.**  
Night Watchman Johnson, of the Buford Hotel, discovered a nasty little fire ablaze in the Buford kitchen yesterday morning between 2 and 3 o'clock. Without awakening any of the guests or sounding any alarm whatever, he gathered together the night force of the hotel and, with the aid of modern and effective extinguishers, soon had the fire under control. There was never any danger after the blaze was discovered, and none of the guests knew of the existence of the fire until breakfast yesterday morning.

**Rev. Harold Turner Entertains.**  
Rev. Harold Turner, the esteemed pastor of Broad Street Methodist church, entertained his board of stewards at a delightful supper at the parsonage on North Broad street last night. Constituting the board of stewards are the following named gentlemen: Messrs. L. E. and J. A. Anderson, J. L. Edwards, J. H. Fells, J. D. Foard, C. H. Haynes, W. H. Stillwell, P. T. Freeland, C. W. Bamsay, R. F. Lawing and E. F. Howell.

**AGAINST SMALL BOYS' POP-CAPS.**  
The board unanimously agreed to protest against the practice of popping fireworks during the holidays. Col. A. L. Smith and Rev. G. A. Page, for the police and fire departments, respectively, were appointed to go before the aldermen to ask the rescinding of action taken last week permitting this for the small boys. They agreed to ask that it be knocked out entirely, or that the practice be limited to the territory one block away from the square in

**DELEGATION APPEARED BEFORE BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND ASKED THAT BETTER POLICE PROTECTION BE GIVEN THEM—CHIEF CHRISTENBURY GIVEN AUTHORITY TO HIRE MEN TO TAKE CARE OF THE MINE AT THE WARD ON SATURDAY NIGHT AND SUNDAY—PROTESTS AGAINST POP-CAPS ON CHRISTMAS—SAFETY BOARD THINKS IT UNWISE—ONE POLICEMAN THREATENED FOR NOT PAYING HIS DEBTS.**

"We want less liquor and better protection," was the burden of the message brought to the board of public safety in session last night by a delegation of citizens from the neighborhood of Highland Park Mill, No. 1, headed by Mr. G. J. Starnes, president of the law and order league organized there a few nights ago. The appeal band numbered six and they urged the board to help them out in the effort to preserve the morals of their community, stating that it had become intolerable to live amid the wild scenes of the neighborhood. It was the sense of the board, they heard Chief T. M. Christenbury make a few remarks on the subject, that the citizens should co-operate with the officers in weeding out the blind tigers and arresting the drunken crowds who assemble on Saturday nights and disturb the peace and peace of the vicinity. Chief Christenbury said that he had been very against it for some time; that whenever he tried to do his duty there, he could not find anybody who volunteered information, and for that reason he very frequently had no witnesses in cases where he knew there had been violations.

**TWO EXTRA MEN ALREADY COMMISSIONED.**  
Mr. J. O. Walker, for the police committee, stated that Mr. J. Leak Spencer had appealed to him personally several days ago, and that he had taken the situation in hand to such an extent that Chief Christenbury was given instructions to hire two men who went on duty last Saturday night. This was in the extreme of North Charlotte. The board voted to give Chief Christenbury the prerogative of hiring four men to assist him in keeping order in both settlements for a period of one month, and longer if it appeared to be necessary at the next meeting of the commission.

The report from the police department for the past month which was submitted by Rev. G. A. Page, showed that there had been 240 cases tried, and 148 persons convicted by the records of the police department. A total of \$1,359.55, \$770.90 of which represented fines, and the remainder the costs in the cases tried. This is regarded as a good report for the month and shows that the policemen are continuing their fine record of the past several months.

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