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**PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT**

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Advertising rates are furnished on application. Advertisers may feel sure that through the columns of this paper, they may reach all Charlotte and a portion of the best people in this State and upper South Carolina.

This paper gives correspondents as wide latitude as it thinks public policy permits, but it is in no case responsible for their views. It is much preferred that correspondents sign their names to their articles, especially in cases where they attack persons or institutions, though this is not demanded. The editor reserves the right to give the names of correspondents when they are demanded for the purpose of personal satisfaction. To receive consideration a communication must be accompanied by the true name of the correspondent.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1907.**

**HIGH TIME TO QUIT IT.**

No one more than The Observer has shown sympathetic appreciation of the difficulties under which banks have labored during recent months. When the financial crisis was coming on, and so long as it lasted, we earnestly bespoke a friendly and tolerant attitude toward those banks which, felt constrained in some cases more on account of general community interests than their own, to adopt extraordinary measures. That crisis, however, has clearly passed, and banks continuing to limit withdrawals or to pay out "scrip" justly incur severe criticism. They are daily committing acts of insolvency after the conditions which made such acts excusable no longer exist, persisting in their course for no other apparent reason than that unversed Treasury officials, State authorities and a too-indulgent public permit them to do so with impunity. Every bank conducting itself in this manner is unquestionably in a state of partial suspension and invites re-entrance proceedings.

The appeal to public spirit which gained good-natured toleration for the harsh and illegal devices employed has lost all validity; the public, in fact, is now being badly imposed upon. Interior banks can no longer complain that New York is holding back currency to any considerable extent; for New York has acquitted itself nobly within recent weeks, displaying a courage and a public spirit worthy of all praise. They cannot claim that they are afraid of their depositors, who, barring a small proportion of foolish or ignorant people, have shown them the utmost consideration; the storm has blown over, and it only remains for the banks themselves to restore full confidence. It cannot be said that any scarcity of money, except the artificial scarcity due for some time past mainly to banks pursuing such policy, exists in the country. Our per capita circulation now stands at the very high figure of \$34, nearly twice that of England, and, except certain semi-comic South American republics, second only to France's; largely in consequence of the fact that the national bank circulation has been nearly doubled within the last five years. Moreover, gold to the amount of some seventy million dollars has been imported since the trouble began, while the inflation of the national bank circulation goes on at an accelerated rate alarming to sober-minded people. There is no lack of money, and but for hoarding the country would now, in consequence of business contraction, have entirely too much circulating medium for its good.

It is in their bad eminence among hoarders that banks pursuing the course mentioned offend worst. How shall business resume its accustomed course, suspended enterprises proceeding and new enterprises getting under way, so long as banks act the part of misers and impose upon the public that they may pile up their reserves to unheard-of figures? They do very great injustices indeed; not least to those banks which, by reason of foresight, courage, strength or public spirit, have either pursued the normal course of business throughout or also resumed it at the earliest possible moment; for they unloaded upon such banks some of their own proper burdens. That a majority of banks in the community have in some cases forced into line a bank anxious to keep its record straight is another injustice. We are hoping against hope that the public will not lose much on "scrip" through the absurd ease with which such a crude circulating medium can obviously be initiated.

It has been a pleasure to note that the banks of two "scrip towns" in North Carolina have resumed the usual course of business within the last few days. We trust that none will hold off later than the first of the year. If they should, public policy clearly demands that something be done in the matter.

Why is it that only Democratic members of Congress are belligerent, mauling each other or the some Republican? A bill between Republicans would be highly refreshing by way of variety.

**THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER**

The Charlotte Observer was founded in 1852. It is the largest Sunday paper in the South, and is published every Sunday except on public holidays. It is published at the rate of \$10.00 per year in advance.

If some papers were not issued at all they would be little missed and the stock of white paper would be a little less diminished. Thus they could contribute their small share toward lower prices. (We are looking at The Catawba County News.) The Observer has been among those papers which have protested against the bulky Sunday papers of the cities, filled with scandal, crime and drive. The matter in last Sunday's Observer was nearly all by North Carolina writers, was clean and of a high order of merit. Nobody was expected to read all of it but there was something in the paper for everybody. The suggestion that nobody read it is a betrayal of ignorance from a source from which that quality may always be confidently expected. That paper was not a money-maker and was not expected to be, it having been laid out on an enormously expensive plan, but was intended as an advertisement for The Observer, for Charlotte and for North Carolina. It was circulated in many States and seen by many people and those who saw it could not but think that there is something in a city and State in which such a production is possible. We are deeply sensible of the approbation with which it has been received by the press and public and wish to make an expression of thanks for the evidences of favor which have been bestowed upon it.

**GOLDEN ADVICE.**

At a banquet a few nights ago of the Pennsylvania Society of New York at the Waldorf Astoria Governor Hughes made these observations: "It is a time for the exercise of sagacity and business prudence, but I believe that the highest sagacity will be found in the effort to see not to what extent credit may be restricted, but how far it may be safely granted; not how many plants may be shut down, but how many may be kept open; not how many men may be discharged, but how many may be kept employed; to see not how many orders may be canceled, but how many may be filled. It is idle for those to lament the evils of distrust who fall to avail themselves of the opportunities to diminish it." These words are like apples of gold in pictures of silver and the man who uttered them will do, as all his words and actions prove that he will. If the Republicans have the judgment to nominate him for President and he should be elected, the country's interests would be safe in his hands.

That was a dramatic story told by our Winston-Salem correspondent in yesterday's paper of the revenue raid in the notorious Smithtown settlement and the murder of Revenue Officer Hendricks. The previous stories of revenue raids in that community have been of fascinating interest and the whole history of the efforts to capture those blockaders and destroy their business, with the some time arrests and more frequent escapes, reads like chapters out of a book. Let it be hoped that the revenue department at Washington will not abate its zeal until this foul blot upon North Carolina is effaced and the power of the government to enforce its criminal laws against these persistently defiant offenders is indicated.

"My name is Jefferson Davis," writes the wild man from Arkansas in reply to an inquiry by The New York World. "Am not related to the President of the Confederacy, but wish I were." In The Congressional Record and The Congressional Directory, which let every member name himself as well as write his own biography and edit his own speeches, he will of course be Jefferson Davis. The admission that he is in no way related to President Davis would render the name matter one of complete indifference did it not give occasion to newspapers and people ill disposed toward the South to make flings in this direction.

It is noticed that Mrs. Longstreet, postmaster at Galneville, Ga., will send the President a Georgia "possum" to be served at the White House Christmas dinner. The Observer could tell the President a "possum" story which it got from Mr. T. H. Vanderford, of Salisbury, which would keep that or any other "possum" forever from even the White House grounds. But it won't do it.

The Paragraphers' Union, recently organized in this section, is evidently making great headway. Its harmony is lovely to behold. We await with much interest, however, to see whether the Richmond Times-Dispatch, The Charleston News and Courier, or some other part one, will not soon be crying "Reab!" at an offending fellow-member.

The Raleigh correspondent of The Industrial News, of Greensboro, says that Governor Glenn said Friday that it will be for some time between the 5th and 15th of January and expressed the hope that if it meets it will see its way clear to ratify the railroad rate compromise that has been agreed upon.

When the old-time addlers come to Charlotte early in January we will all be there.

**WHITNEY POWER CO. UNSHAKEN.**

An Eronous Impression Growing Out of Mr. George I. Whitney's Financial Troubles Corrected. Manufacturers' Record.

It seems as if every unusual or novel enterprise south of the Potomac (outside of West Virginia) has a strong during led to it. At first it looks like "easy money," but drawbacks develop. The Whitney Power Company, down on the Yadkin river, in North Carolina, is the latest big Southern scheme to fall short of expectations. The preliminary announcement in regard to it seemed most promising, but evidently it resulted unfortunately for Mr. Whitney, a fact which his many friends in the trade will regret. It was as who was instrumental in financing the big "big" combinations of 1899, and he was until recently the chief owner of the Huesteter-Connelleville Coke Company—Coal Trade Journal.

What's the matter with the Coal Trade Journal that it makes such bad breaks with the south as its best? The Whitney Power Company is a magnificent undertaking, worthy of the great upbuilding work of Mr. Whitney; but because financial conditions in Pittsburgh and New York caused Whitney & Stephenson to be "frozen out" and to lose millions, though their investments were of the highest class, why should the Whitney Power Co. of North Carolina, which has been classed as an unfortunat enterprise? The trouble was in Pittsburgh, not in North Carolina. Mr. Whitney will bear testimony to the fact that the Whitney Power Co. has in his opinion, has lost none of its attractiveness as a great and safe investment.

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**IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?**

Of Course There is, and Always Will Be as Long as Christmas is the Anniversary of Him Who Brought Love to Earth.

Once a little girl, Virginia O'Houston, wrote to Mr. Chas. A. Dana, editor of The New York Sun, asking him if there is a Santa Claus, and this was The Sun's reply. It is a classic: "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give your life its highest beauty and joy.

"Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus; but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down what would that prove? Nobody ever saw Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not. But that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen or unseeable in the world.

"You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man and even the wisest cannot penetrate with their senses. The strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it real? Ah, Virginia, in all the world there is no other magic so great as this. The strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it real? Ah, Virginia, in all the world there is no other magic so great as this. The strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it real? Ah, Virginia, in all the world there is no other magic so great as this.

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**"THE SPLENDID SOUTH"**

Reasons for Asserting Its Wealth—Railroad Building and Peasant Politics Carried Too Far—Within the Past Few Months the Demagogues Have Cost the Section As Much as the Value of the Cotton Crop.

Washington Herald.

Symptoms of returning sanity in the South, so far as recent unreasoning assaults upon railroads and other legitimate corporate interests are concerned, is one of the gratifying signs of the times. The calm, dispassionate press of that section is growing more optimistic daily and it only the political or semi-political organs that are now engaged in an effort to further a work of destruction that has already cost the South very dear.

It is gratifying to all who are interested in the South—and who in this nation are not interested in that great and mighty section nowadays!—to note the dawn of a more promising day. If from the past riot of cheap politics comes a better and a saner understanding of the South's needs, perhaps the loss it has sustained by reason of the demagogues may not have been sacrificed in vain. That the signal, "Brakes on," has been sounded by the people is indicative of knowledge upon their part that the time has come to stop the clamor and look to the honest necessities of the hour.

Says The Baltimore Manufacturers' Record: "It is very safe to say that the demagogues who have led in agitation against railroads and other corporations in the last six or seven months cost the South more than the entire value of this year's cotton crop. The South could well have afforded to lose its whole cotton crop, worth \$80,000,000, to have been saved from the destruction which has been wrought by the agitator. 'Vast as has been the loss, tremendous as has been the carnage in securities, the South's resources are so great, so limitless for future development, that what has been lost can be, in part at least, quickly regained if the people of the South will act promptly and in the right direction.

The South is not so intensely emotional; this keen-witted demagogue has discovered time and again to their advantage—but not to the South's. It is easy to convince them that they have been wronged. Being hot-blooded and excitable, they are in reality, as the rule among such people, as quick to right a wrong as they are to resent an insult—as ready to do justice to others as they are to demand it for themselves. It was not thinkable, therefore, that unreasoning warfare against the great interests located in the South should have been permitted to go to the extreme length of absolute destruction. Primarily, doubtless, the South had some just and proper cause of complaint against these interests referred to. The mighty railroad systems, for instance, were not established throughout that section without great expenditure of money, and in the face of much political opposition. Just out from under the frightful rule of the carpet-buggers, the South was suspicious and, we doubt not, inclined to view with alarm the invasion of Northern and Eastern capital. The South knows to-day, however, as well as it knows anything, that but for these great railroad systems progress and prosperity in that section would come to an absolute standstill; and it knows this without necessity of anyone to assist about the wrongs in the establishment of these big systems that may have been inflicted upon it. Conditions trying to the railroads, as well as trying to the States of the South, have arisen from time to time. Each has had to submit to much, it may in all fairness be said, if this being true, the blame, however, it does not follow that the copartnership between the railroads and the people in the past has been altogether bad or is impossible in the future. It is only necessary that the extremists be held in check now, that the evil they have already done may be remedied.

Railroad building and peasant politics have lately gone entirely too far down in Dixie. Carried away by an excess of zeal engendered in the hour of an almost universal radicalism, the demagogues have inflicted a painful and a gaping wound upon the material progressiveness of the South. The Southern people are opening their eyes to the fact that the demagogues have merely been up to their old tricks—what the filling of the offices has been the main object in view all along. If this being true, we look for a speedy reiteration to the rear of the agitators. The South is not going to kill the geese that lay its golden eggs.

From the brief reign of the demagogue comes a clear vision of conditions and affairs about them, the people of the South may have gained something, as the case will then stand. Surely, it must be pleasing to every one to think that the awakening has not been postponed too long.

**"YOU ALL"**

Is It a Good and Proper Expression?—A Question For the Class.

To the Editor of The Observer:

In the department, The Observer's Question Box of your issue of the 15th, I find this answer given to an inquirer: "It is not correct to ask a clerk in a store, 'Have you all any apples?' 'You all' is an expression occasionally heard in the South, among uneducated people." Under standing that The Question Box is managed by a concern outside the State, I write to get your opinion of the matter. Is not "you all" a very good and a very proper expression? Certainly it seems so, especially as the pronoun "you" may be either singular or plural, whereas "you all" is only plural, and decidedly more emphatic. And from my hearing this same "you all" used so many many times, I shall hardly believe that it is an expression only occasionally heard in the South, and certainly should not think that it is a term confined in its use to "uneducated people." Will you kindly publish your opinion of the expression?

R. C. MERCHANT.

Oxford, Dec. 19, 1907.

[We have doubt about the correctness of the expression, but certainly it is very frequently heard in the South and often in the North of the most cultivated people.—Observer.]

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**Club House Burned.**

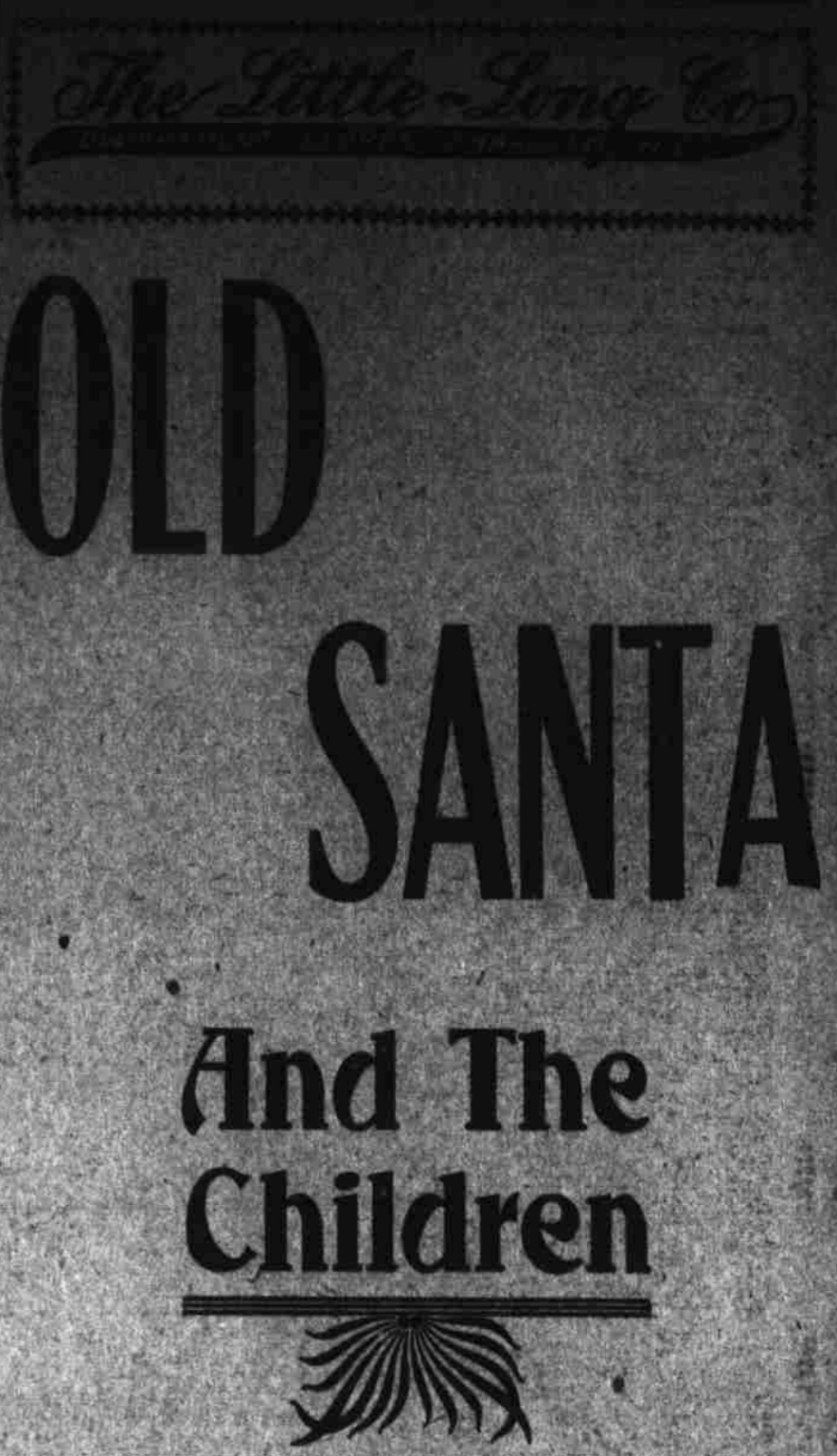
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Between the two, it's hard to say which is most anxious for Christmas to come. Old Santa wants to unload and the children stand with a glad face, sparkling eyes, a listening ear and outstretched arms. Monday, Tuesday and Christmas. Well, there'll be lots of children made happy, but how many are there that will see it celebrated only? Let the Christmas spirit prevail in every one. It should be so. It's good to make some one else happy—it makes you happy. The cost is little and the profit great. Think of the pleasure that only a 10c. toy would give some unfortunate child!

- We Have 10c. Mechanical Toys**
- And most anything up to \$15.00 that would make a boy or girl's heart throb until it shook their whole body.
- \$15.00 Autos, \$10.50
  - One \$15.00 Railroad Auto, Monday ..... \$10.00
  - One \$14.00 Automobile, Monday ..... \$10.00
  - \$8.50 Child's Piano, Monday ..... \$6.25
  - \$15.00 Hobby Horse, Monday ..... \$10.75
  - Child's China \$1.00 Tea Sets, Monday ..... 70c.
  - \$1.00 Wash Sets, Monday ..... 70c.

**Special Diamond Sale Monday**

We can give prices on Diamonds Monday, set in Rings, Bracelets, Brooches or otherwise, that we can't give any other time. Come see the goods privately Monday afternoon.

**Bracelets**

A special consignment of Filled and Solid Gold Bracelets up to a Diamond set at..... \$100.00

If you want a watch up-to-now, we've got it. We have the Watch that's so thin it has but one side.

**Fur Gifts.**

You can't please your wife, mother or sister better than to give her a Fur or a Muff, and here's the place and now is the time to buy it, as we are selling a large consignment stock—much under regular price.

**Cloaks Out to Heart**

But we prefer the money. Cloaks that sold for \$10.00, \$12.50 and even \$15.00, price now..... \$7.50

**A 25c. China Sale**

You'll have to see this lot of fine pieces of China we are selling for 25c. before you'll appreciate it.

**Turkish Rugs One-Third Off**

These are genuine, but cost too much for this market. Our price is not that of the fakir, and still one-third off buys a genuine Oriental Rug.... \$3.50 to \$25.00

**The Little-Long Co.**