

CUPID'S WORK AT BUENA VISTA

Many Marriages During the Holidays—Christmas Trees in the Neighborhood—Funeral of Mr. Sales—A New Store—Personal Items.

Buena Vista, Dec. 30.—Christmas has passed, leaving with us the memories of the season of usual good cheer. There were more than the usual number of Christmas trees in the immediate vicinity. In the Biltmore Methodist church Christmas eve was the first one. During Christmas day there were trees at Biltmore Baptist church, Gash's Creek, Slabtown and at the Biltmore house. Here for the employes of the estate and their friends was the most joyous occasion of all the holidays. Promptly at 3 o'clock the doors of the spacious banquet hall were thrown open and the assembled crowd invited in. Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt stood at the entrance and greeted each one with a hearty hand grasp. When all were in and the band ceased playing the distribution of gifts began by Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt. Mr. Vanderbilt first having extended a welcome to all in a short address. The gifts being distributed, then came the most entertaining part of the whole occasion. A very skilled magician of New York gave an exhibition of his skill, and it was certainly wonderful.

The day after Christmas the Sunday school of the Brown town neighborhood gave a most delightful little tree at the home of Mr. Orris Brown. This was rendered more successful by a \$5 contribution from Mrs. Vanderbilt. This excellent lady of such high estate has very much endeared herself by such acts of kindness to all who live in reach of the Biltmore estate. Cupid got in his usual amount of work. Mr. Christopher Brank and Miss Hattie Pressley were his first victims. This is Mr. Brank's third venture in matrimonial speculation—twice before he reached his majority. He is one of our most upright, honorable, industrious citizens.

Then came a double wedding, Miss Carrie Wilson, oldest daughter of T. J. Wilson, and Mr. E. V. Brookshire, youngest son of ex-Sheriff J. H. Brookshire, were married December 24 at the home of the bride. At the same time and place Miss Hattie Neal Sales and Mr. Ed Stevens of Rest Haven were united in matrimony. Mr. Stevens and Miss Sales are two of the most popular young people of the Gashes's Creek neighborhood.

Rev. Mr. Compton recently closed a series of meetings at Skyland. He was assisted by Rev. Mr. Solomon both of the Sanctification persuasion. There is one thing peculiar about the ministers of this order. While they go neatly dressed, wearing white shirts and linen collars, not one of them ever wears a tie.

The French Broad lodge, I. O. O. F., gave a most delightful oyster supper at their lodge hall at Biltmore at the commencement of the holidays. Frank Carter and Dr. McBrayer of Asheville delivered addresses.

J. F. Garren of Toxaway has been at home spending the holidays with his parents and friends.

Mrs. Elsie Garren and little daughter, Jessie, are again at home from a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Frady, at Skyland.

The remains of John Sales were interred in the Gashes's Creek cemetery yesterday. The funeral services were conducted according to the Odd Fellows ritual by members of the French Broad lodge. Mr. Sales was one of its charter members. He in his early life was considered a model young man, but had been demented for several years.

S. F. Ford is building a neat new cottage home.

James M. Brown has built a new storehouse and stocked it with goods. This gives our little village her second store.

OFFICE IMPROVEMENTS

The Federal Court Records Are to Be Typewritten.

United States Court Clerk W. S. Hyams has found it necessary at frequent intervals to have his clerks to increase the facilities of his office in the government building.

The several new additions made to the already well equipped office have made it possible for much more work to be done in the same length of time than formerly.

Three hundred metal file boxes were received yesterday, which will at once be installed for the systematic keeping of records. These boxes are of neat and servicable construction and are equipped with a spring contrivance that securely holds the records in place until the spring is raised.

Most of these new boxes will be placed in the vault annex, while the remainder will be kept in the main department.

Deputy Clerk Logan has recently been supplied with a modern Elliott-Hatch typewriter, which is a machine of intricate and novel construction.

With the machine one is able to write in a book with speed equal to that which can be made on an ordinary typewriter. All the court records will in the future be typewritten, thus saving much time and making the work show to better advantage.

DR. BALLARD'S DOG KILLED

Dr. A. M. Ballard Monday afternoon had the misfortune to have one of his pet dogs killed. The accident happened on college street between 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The doctor was driving up Spruce street and as he turned the corner of Spruce and College his dog ran in front of the car and was instantly killed. A crowd gathered and Dr. Ballard hastily put the remains in his buggy and drove home.

The dog, whose name was Rex, was a yellow one and a great favorite of the doctor's.

BEATS ALL ITS RIVALS. No salve, lotion, balm or oil can compare with **Bucklen's Arnica Salve** for healing. It kills pain. Cures or no pay. 25c. All druggists.

Jim Dumps resolves on New Year's Day That he'll not change last year's good way. But daily dine on Strength's sure source, The brain-and-brawn-producing "Force." A brand new lease of life and limb All can foresee for "Sunny Jim."

"Force"

The Ready-to-Serve Cereal

Sweet, crisp flakes of wheat and malt. will make ALL the year happy.

Will Be in Demand Hereafter.

"I am considerably advanced towards eighty years of age. I have of late been almost rejuvenated by the use of your very excellent preparation which you have rightly designated as 'Force.' For the last month or two we all have it and never tire of it. It will be in demand hereafter." —E. CATTERMOLLE, Edgeland."

WEEK OF PRAYER IN ALL THE WORLD

Appeal and Suggestions from the Evangelical Alliance.

The Evangelical Alliance has issued invitations and suggestions for the program of the week of united, worldwide prayer, January 4-11.

Following is a brief synopsis of the program suggested:

- Sunday, January 4—Appropriate services and sermons.
- Monday, January 5—The church militant.
- Tuesday, January 6—Foreign missions.
- Wednesday, January 7—Home missions.
- Thursday, January 8—Special work for the young—families and schools.
- Friday, January 9—Nations and their rulers.
- Saturday, January 10—The ministry of the gospel—Pastors, Teachers, Evangelists.
- Sunday, January 11—Sermons.

In its invitation the alliance says: "In hearty accord with the British Evangelical alliance, and with the alliances of other lands, we send out this invitation for the Week of Prayer of 1903. The promises of God's Holy Word, and the experience of all the ages, assure us of gracious answers to earnest, penitent, united prayer. If the petitions are from pure hearts and out of faithful lives, they will be heard. If those who pray fulfill also the call to Christian service, the windows of heaven will surely be opened anew, and an abounding blessing will be given. It is certain that the great blessing will not be granted unless prayer is offered. The intercessory power of consistent Christian character, the appeal of faith and hope and toil must still be supplemented by a direct request for the desired results. Such is the declared and holy will of God. The temper of the time may be disinclined to humble intercession. There may be a tendency even among Christians to rely chiefly on Christian activity. None the less it remains that only prayer can make good works complete. Let us, accordingly, accept, with holy eagerness, God's two-fold assurance that true prayer is needful, and that such prayer will be favorably answered. There are manifold and measureless incentives to the intercession which thus prevails. The conflict of good and evil visibly increases in intensity. The forces for and against Christ are gathering in a new line of battle. The good increasingly triumphs. Christ is today exalted as never before. The world's welfare is continually advanced. Yet there remains sin, evils, woes which, in themselves, are enough to make the whole head sick and the whole heart faint. Multitudes of souls are under the divine condemnation. Light has come, yet they love darkness rather than light. Society is marred by wrongs and rent by strifes, which the full presence of the Kingdom would remove. Nations are largely in the bondage of selfishness and bitter pride. They are far from the universal acceptance of the Golden Rule. The whole world, though moving toward the promised day, still groans and travails in pain.

Let us, therefore, unitedly, earnestly, penitently plead with God for the hastening of Messiah's reign. Let us plead for the saving of souls, for the redemption of society, for the Christianizing of the nations, and for the doing of God's will on earth as it is done in heaven. If we are of one accord before the throne of the heavenly grace, praying by both deed and word God will hear our prayer."

Amusements

"Picture a man, filled to the brim with animal spirits and an uncontrollable penchant for practical joking getting himself into all sorts of scrapes and escapades and then extracting himself with the ease of a Chesterfield, perhaps because of an incomparable fondness for prevarication; all this with laughs and nothing but laughs for a period of about two and one-half hours and you have 'What Happened to Jones.' The humor of this play is broader and more evident than any play put on in years. George H. Broadhurst excelled even himself when he wrote it and its longevity has been his greatest reward. Thomas W. Broadhurst is to take the play on tour this season and he will give it a far superior production to anything it has ever known. An excellent company has been engaged to interpret the various roles." At the Grand New Years, matinee and night.

Personal.

J. M. Brodie of Chicago is staying at the Battery Park.

R. H. Harris of New York arrived yesterday and is at the Battery Park for a few days' stay.

John H. Gould of New York city arrived yesterday afternoon. Mr. Gould is a representative of Harper's Weekly and is touring the south in the interest of that periodical.

Miss Mary Erwin has returned to Asheville after an absence of several months.

John Cowan returned to Asheville from Tennessee yesterday.

Miss Helen G. Baker is expected to return soon from Wilmington, where she has been visiting.

Harry F. French left yesterday after visiting here for several weeks. Mr. French lives in Atlanta and has been here for the purpose of getting a collection of views of the surrounding country.

William Griffin expects to go to New York at an early date.

Dr. C. M. Case has returned from a western trip.

Miss Eleanor Chapman and Miss Charlotte Lytle who have been visiting on Montford avenue for some time, expect to leave for their home in Milwaukee the early part of next week.

General Theo. F. Davidson went to Alexander yesterday on a short business trip.

Mrs. Walsh and daughter, Miss Walsh, who have been visiting this place for several weeks, expect to leave Monday for Miami, Fla., for a visit. They will return to Asheville later.

Dr. W. H. Ruffner of Lexington, Va., is visiting his daughter, Mrs. R. F. Campbell, 17 Grove street.

E. A. Hollis of Greenville, Va., was in the city yesterday on business.

J. C. Black of White Pine was here yesterday.

J. F. Spough of Salisbury was registered at the Glen Rock yesterday.

Miss Maud Cox, daughter of Colonel Cox, is here from Philadelphia on a visit.

H. Abram of Knoxville was here yesterday.

J. H. Payne, sr., was in the city from Waynesville yesterday.

C. Watkins of Old Fort is registered at the Glen Rock.

Mr. and Mrs. George English of New York are again at the Battery Park.

Mrs. Clyde E. Mears is visiting friends in Marion, Va.

Dr. Prioleau has returned from New York.

Swannanoa arrivals: T. L. Johnson of New York, B. E. Gray of Chattanooga, A. L. Abbott of Houston, Mr. and Mrs. Almac of Cincinnati.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Curtis of Charleston were in town yesterday.

George A. Jones of Franklin was among yesterday's arrivals.

F. L. Miller of Des Moines, William M. Phillips of Atlanta and D. C. Cummings of Canton were among yesterday's arrivals at the Berkeley.

Walter E. Moore of Webster was in town yesterday.

C. C. Russell of Asheboro is in town.

Alexander S. Stewart of Washington, D. C., is at the Battery Park.

TELL THIS TO YOUR WIFE. Electric Bitters cure female complaints, surely and safely; dispell headaches, backaches, nervousness or no pay. 50c. All druggists. Gazette "wants" one cent a word.

TOWN TOPICS

ON THE first stroke of twelve, midnight, the year 1902 dies, and by the time the sound of the last stroke has died away the young 'un, 1903, will be very much alive. Then there will be a great rustling in the land—the turning over of new leaves. And tomorrow much stationery will be spoiled by folks writing "1902" at the tops of their letters.

THE subject of ginseng growing has attracted much attention during the past year and now the news comes of the formation of a ginseng trust in Japan. The total yearly production of this root is not over 10,000 pounds, of which Korea contributes 50,000, Japan 40,000 and America 20,000 pounds. The Korean government by uniformly maintaining a state monopoly and carefully controlling production has managed to keep the price of Korean ginseng at \$14.94 per pound, while competition in Japan has kept the price there down to 50 cents. Now two enterprising Japs have conceived the idea of forming a trust to raise the price and, it is said, will have the cooperation of the Korean bureau in charge of the product there. If this trust proves successful, it may have the effect of increasing the trade in the American product with greater profit to producers as the outcome.

ONE herb dealer in Asheville—Dr. T. C. Smith—handles about \$5000 worth worth of ginseng per year. Ginseng is now worth \$4.50 per pound in the New York market. Western North Carolina is the greatest natural herb-land in the world, and of course ginseng grows wild in this region. But the herb digger has almost exterminated it. It was formerly to be found in abundance, but when it became generally known that the root brought fabulous prices—for it has never before been so low as at present—a reckless war was waged upon it, and now the tiniest roots are dug up and sold. Most of the product handled by the herb dealers is found in the woods.

Efforts are constantly being made to grow it successfully, but no one in this section has ever tried to grow it on a large scale. It is said that the principal requirements are shade and rich soil. Reputable seed dealers say that with proper care it can be cultivated with profit, and fake seed dealers hold out alluring promises of the returns to be had from the investment of a dollar, or even a quarter. One essential of the culture is that the roots must have time to grow. Small roots produce about as large plants as large roots, and the temptation to dig up the valuable herb before the roots have reached a valuable size is one way nature has of limiting the output.

A DISGUSTED grower said the other day that the only way to grow ginseng—and make money out of it—to keep it under lock and key. He had a considerable garden of the precious herb, and was living in expectation of making a small fortune out of it. One morning he awoke to find that the entire crop had been harvested overnight. To have a ginseng patch is something like having a gold mine, and this particular grower says he will have no more to do with ginseng.

THE only market in the world for ginseng is China. There it was once worth its weight in gold, and it is looked upon as a sort of supernatural agency for the preservation of health and vigor by the Chinese. All experts in herb properties agree that the herb has no medicinal value, or practically none. But hold hard a moment before giving way to feelings of contempt for the credulous oriental. Ginseng has just as much merit as sarsaparilla, that is to say none; and yet sarsaparilla, and sarsaparilla compounds, and extracts, and the like, must, to judge by the amount of money invested in producing them and advertising them in this enlightened land, be looked upon with about as much respect as is ginseng by the benighted heathen.

THERE was an unusual sight Monday morning—rainbow in the west, and in the winter. At least, that is what reputable people say who were up and about at that time o' day. By the way, how many people can recall having seen a rainbow in the west?

Gazette "wants" one cent a word. Gazette "wants" one cent a word.

Christmas Has Come and Gone

But the cold weather that came with it is still here.

The cold weather can be rendered nil if you use a

Cole's Heater

They're the Best Phone 87.

Asheville Hardware Co.

On the Square Asheville, N. C.

HOTEL AGNEW

WITH SEPARATE SANITORIUM ANNEX Entirely New—Whole Block—Beach Front—350 Rooms Hydrotherapeutic Baths, Sea Water Swimming Plunges. Special, \$2.50 Daily; Weekly, \$15 up. Open all year. A. C. MITCHELL & CO. - ATLANTIC CITY

History by Miss Ida M. Starbell

The History by Miss Ida M. Starbell which began in the NOVEMBER McClure's is the

Great Story of Standard Oil

Miss Starbell's work is of unequalled importance as a document of the day. Her story has live men in it. They suffer and work and win and lose their battles with the verisimilitude that removes the tale from the statement and clothes it with the color of human interest and the vivacity of human sympathy. The results of her work are to be far-reaching; she is writing an unfinished history.—Boston Globe

"An absorbing and illuminating contribution to the trust question.—Chicago Inter-Oceanic"

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J. F. VAN RENSSLEAER, General Agent, Atlanta, Ga.

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National Family Newspaper

New York Tri-Weekly Tribune.

Published Monday and Wednesday, and Friday, is in reality a fine, free every-other-day daily, giving the latest news on days of issue, and covering the news of the other three. It contains all important foreign cable news which appears in the DAILY TRIBUNE on same date, also Domestic and Foreign Correspondence, Short Stories, Elegant Half-tone Illustrations, Humorous Items, Industrial Information, Fashion Notes, Agricultural Matters and Comprehensive and reliable financial and market reports.

We furnish it with THE SEVEN WEEKLY GAZETTE for \$2.00 a year.

Send all orders to THE GAZETTE, Asheville, N. C.

NOTICE.

Is hereby given that the town of Weaverville will apply to the coming legislature for a change in corporate limits and charter.

J. B. LOTSPEICH, Mayor.

Ill Jan 15.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that an application will be made to the General Assembly of North Carolina at its next session to amend the charter of the Town of Victoria, in Buncombe county.

F. W. W. GRAHAM, Mayor.

NOTICE.

The Good Roads Association of Asheville and Buncombe county hereby gives notice that it will apply to the next session of the General Assembly of North Carolina for the passage of an act incorporating said association. This December 15th, 1902, till Jan 20 B. M. Jones, Secy.

NOTICE

The regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Blue Ridge National Bank will be held in the institution's banking rooms on Tuesday afternoon, January 13th, at 4 o'clock.

ERWIN SLUDER, Cashier.

till 1-13-'03

Tomatoes, 15c pound; Beets, 5c bunch; Celery, 25c bunch. Hiram Lidgsey.

NOW IS YOUR CHANCE

To buy cheap tickets to California and the Northwest, via Union Pacific and Southern Pacific. Ask for particulars.

J. F. VAN RENSSLEAER, General Agent, Atlanta, Ga.

Boarders Wanted

Large grounds on North Main street. Car line in the suburbs. Pleasant. Abundance of fresh milk, eggs, etc. No extra charges.

Rates \$5 to \$7 Per Week

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Telephone No. 295. Information

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MRS. S. STEVENSON, Prop.

Best \$1.00 per day house in the city.

Hot and cold baths. All lines of cars pass the door. Special rates by the week.

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Low Rates to the West and Northwest.

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