

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.
 One Year, by Mail, \$6.00
 Six Months, " 3.50
 Three Months, " 1.75
 Two Months, " 1.00
 Delivered to Subscribers in the City at 40 Cents per Month.

The Morning Star.

OUTLINES.

A convention of independent cigar dealers is to be held in Chicago January 15th. The Seaboard Air Line has contracted for 1,000 freight cars, to be delivered before next summer. A negro and his wife reported to have been lynched near Greenwood, S. C. A woman near Hodges, S. C., was shot and killed by a negro man. It is feared that young orange trees in Florida have been killed or badly hurt by the cold weather. In a train wreck on the Illinois Central three men were killed and two injured. The bank at Union, Mo., was robbed last night of \$18,000. Twenty-five persons were killed and many more injured in a collision of trains on the Grand Trunk railroad, Ontario. Nine men killed and others injured by a snow slide, British Columbia. Vice President Walker D. Hines, of the L. & N. R. Co., at yesterday's session of the American Economic Association discussed the matter of legislative regulation of railroad rates. N. Y. markets: Money on call firm at 6 per cent; cotton, holiday; flour steady; wheat—spot firm, No. 3 red 84c; corn—spot steady, No. 2 85c; oats—spot firm, No. 3 38c; hogs—steady, strained common to good \$1.85@1.90; spirits turpentine steady at 55@55 1/2.

WEATHER REPORT.

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE,
 WEATHER BUREAU,
 WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 27.
 Meteorological data for the twenty-four hours ending at 8 P. M.:
 Temperature: 8 A. M., 30 degrees; 8 P. M., 30 degrees; maximum, 35 degrees; minimum, 19 degrees; mean, 27 degrees.
 Rainfall for the day, .00; rainfall since 1st of month to date, 3.26.
 Stage of water in the Cape Fear river at Fayetteville, N. C., at 8 A. M. Friday, 8.6 feet.

FORECAST FOR TO-DAY.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—For North Carolina: Fair, continued cold Sunday; Monday increasing cloudiness and not so cold, probably rain at night; variable winds.

Port Almanac—December 28.

Sun Rise	7:10 A. M.
Sun Set	4:53 P. M.
Day's Length	9:43 M.
High Water at Wilmington	7:23 P. M.
High Water Wilmington	9:53 P. M.

The great watchmaking town in Switzerland is Chaux-de-Fonds, which turns out 300,000 watches a year, worth about \$7,000,000.

French boot and shoe makers have raised their prices, on account they say, of American competition. Maybe that is the French way. In this country they do precisely the reverse.

In Utah the drug stores are not allowed to sell more than five gallons of liquor at a time. If that is not enough for a fellow to fill up on all he has to do is go outside, shake up and come again.

A Denver, Col., dispatch informs us that 9,000 Boers are preparing to trek to America and will settle in Colorado, New Mexico and Texas. It looks as if the Boers are destined to become another "scattered nation."

Mrs. Mary Nixon, of Bryn Mawr, Pa., had her 102d birthday party on Christmas. A lot of her children, grand-children and sixteen great grand-nieces helped her celebrate and wished her many happy returns.

Col. Jack Chin has started a new industry in Kentucky. He has established a fox incubating and hound incubating farm. On one side of the fence he raises foxes and on the other side hounds, with nothing but a wire fence between.

The Frick Coke Company of Pennsylvania has made a voluntary increase of eight per cent. in the wages of its 20,000 employees, which amounts in the aggregate to \$1,600,000 in the year. That's better than waiting for and wrestling with strikes.

T. T. Fortune, a New York negro, sent on an investigating expedition to Hawaii and the Philippines, is quoted as saying that the "importation of the true negro will be the solution of the labor problem." Wonder if Fortune's "Afro-American" and his "true negro" is one and the same solver?

The inventive genius in which the American leads all other people still holds its own. The present year has been a record breaker, the number of patents granted exceeding that of any previous year. Of the patents issued 999 were to residents of England and 343 to residents of Germany.

The Augusta Ga., Chronicle sees no good reason why so much money should be spent in elections for Mayor of that city. Perhaps not, but then an election without the stimulus of more or less cash wouldn't be nearly so exhilarating. That's about all some people ever get out of them.

CHRISTMAS TREES GALORE.

Dates of Nearly All the Sunday School Festivals This Week—Three for Tuesday Night.

A stone cannot now be thrown without hitting a Sunday school Christmas tree and this makes the little folks happy. Four of these trees have already been held—by the Sunday school, of St. Paul's Lutheran, St. James Episcopal, Bladen street Methodist and Emmanuel Presbyterian churches—this week will bring forth the great remainder. To-morrow night the Sunday school of St. Matthew's English Lutheran church will hold their Xmas festival and tree-planting of Tuesday evening as previously appointed. There will be a fine programme of music, recitations, etc. The banner night of the week will be Tuesday, as then the schools of Grace M. E. Church, St. Andrew's Presbyterian church and Brooklyn Baptist church will celebrate with a tree. Grace church will have its tree in the upstairs of the City Hall. The First Baptist church Sunday school will have its tree Wednesday night, and as this will be New Year's eve a fine opportunity will be afforded to see the death of the old and the birth of the new year. The school of Fifth street Methodist church will very likely have its tree the same night. The date for the tree of the Market street Methodist church's Sunday school has not been decided upon.

LOCAL DOTS.

— A supply of the new issue of the 13-cent stamps has been received at the postoffice.
 — The annual brilliant dance of the Assembly will take place Thursday night, January 23d.
 — For a Christmas gift the fire boys presented popular Chief Schenck with a very handsome couch.
 — The tug *Alexander Jones* left Southport yesterday with the schooner *Douglas* in tow, bound for New York.
 — A boy who is experienced in feeding job presses may secure employment by immediate application at the STAR office.
 — The County Commissioners will meet some day during the early part of the week to pass on applications to sit liquor.
 — "Turn Over a New Leaf and Write the Record of An Unspoiled Life" will be Dr. Blackwell's theme at the First Baptist Church to-night.
 — A competent and experienced feeder for Job Presses can secure employment by immediate application at the STAR office. Liberal wages paid.
 — A press dispatch to the STAR last night says the steamer *City of Fayetteville*, in tow of the tug *H. M. C. Smith*, arrived at Beaufort, S. C., yesterday.
 — The little girl who came to the city from Delgado Friday afternoon to attend the Elks' Christmas tree and became lost, was found late in the night and returned safely home.
 — Rev. Chas. M. Bishop, D. D., of St. Joseph, Mo., will preach at Grace Methodist Church this morning at 11 o'clock. His reputation is a guarantee that his sermon will be a good one.
 — In the police court yesterday Wesley Watson, colored, was bound over to the higher tribunal for stealing an overcoat from an Assyrian. A white man was sent to the roads for an assault.
 — The 5 o'clock meeting for men at the Y. M. C. A. this afternoon will be addressed by Rev. A. D. McClure. His subject will be "Luxurious Living." All men are cordially invited to be present.
 — "PECK'S BAD BOY."

BIG SUCCESS FINANCIALLY.

This Christmas Was a Record Smasher for All Businesses.
 That Christmas, 1902, was a big artistic success in Wilmington everybody knows well, so it only remains to add that it was a great success financially. Everybody seemed to have a sufficiency of the blessings of this world and records show that money was spent quite lavishly.

All the merchants report big business and some say their sales were away ahead of many a previous year. The trade, too, was neither spasmodic nor troublesome to handle, but on the contrary was steady and in most cases rapid, although money was spent judiciously.

The business done by the Southern Express Company was enormous and far in excess of last year. The receipts were about \$300 more. The number of outside vehicles employed to deliver packages, aside from the regular wagons, was about double.

The mail was exceedingly heavy, though in actual weight it was about the same as last year. All this goes to show that Wilmington is prosperous and advancing year by year.

TWO FIRES YESTERDAY.
 They Occurred in the Afternoon the Same Half Hour.
 There were two fires yesterday afternoon and although they were of little consequence they were quite sufficient to keep the fire laddies busy, as both happened within the same half hour and were located at opposite ends of the city.
 Five No. 1 was caused by a spark from a blazing chimney falling on the roof of a one-story frame dwelling owned and occupied by Ben Barge, colored, 112 South Twelfth street. The damage was nominal. The alarm was sounded at precisely 2:33 o'clock from box 54, Twelfth and Market streets.
 The other fire occurred at 3 o'clock, an alarm being "turned in" from box 17, Fifth and Nixon streets, and was at the house of a colored woman named Boyd, No. 510 Nixon street. A defective fuse was the cause. About \$25 damage was done, covered by insurance with Col. Walker Taylor and Messrs. J. H. Boatwright & Son.

To Attend the Funeral.
 Live Oak Camp of Woodmen of the World and Orion Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows will go down to Southport this morning to attend the funeral of their late brother, Engineer J. M. C. Fisher. Many other friends of the deceased will also go down. The steamer *Wilmington* will leave the city at 10 o'clock this morning.

I will make sittings until Saturday, January 3d. Will be open New Year's day. Paul M. Taylor.

FOR ASTHMA USE CHEENEY'S EXPECTORANT.
 For sale by J. C. Shepard.

ABOUT WILMINGTON.

Mayor Waddell Writes to the Manufacturers' Record of Its Progress.

IN THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

Forty-Odd Other Mayors Tell of the South's Prosperity—The Record Calls Attention to Work of Our Chamber of Commerce.

The business men of Wilmington will find the Christmas issue of the *Manufacturers' Record* of special interest, as it contains much about the progress and prosperity of the South. Letters from almost fifty mayors are published, each setting forth the advantages of his respective city. Mayor Waddell has a very interesting letter, as follows:

"It is a fact which cannot be denied, and which every business man in this city will testify to, that the general business and industrial progress and outlook here is better in every way than ever before. The *Manufacturers' Record* publishes every new enterprise in the South, and has given those recently established in and around Wilmington, but, of course, the mere mention of these can convey no just idea of the real advance industrially and commercially, or of the quickened spirit that prevails in business of every kind. I have been told by returning persons who lived or visited here prior to November 10, 1898 (from which we date our news), that they hardly recognized the place as the same, so great has been the improvement in development and in the spirit of the people."

"The bank deposits are growing rapidly, labor is fully employed, the volume of business steadily increasing, and buildings are multiplying; railroad facilities and steamboat traffic are larger, and foreign shipments are greater. There is not and never has been any 'boom,' but there is a steady growth and a healthy one. The most recent enterprises in which our 'live' Chamber of Commerce is interested itself is a large tobacco warehouse, and a crusade among the farmers of adjoining counties in behalf of tobacco planting, which will be something new, except in a small way, in this region. The recent removal of the offices of the Plant system to headquarters here of the Atlantic Coast Line has added to the social and business life also. But I feel I am exceeding my allotted space."

"The Record says that the financial, industrial and commercial health of the city is one of the surest indications of the prosperity of the South during the past year, and that Wilmington, N. C., where, under the auspices of a live chamber of commerce, is being made a crusade among the farmers for the encouragement of tobacco culture is among the cities whose merchants are feeling the effects of agricultural prosperity."

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.
 Mr. C. L. Taylor is in Fayetteville.
 — Mr. Geo. Scott is visiting in Newbern.
 — Mr. Lee Holmes has returned from Fayetteville.
 — Miss Mildred Davis has gone on a visit to Chapel Hill.
 — Mr. J. C. Higgins leaves to-day for Jacksonville, Fla., on business.
 — Mr. Niell McLaurin leaves this afternoon for Florence on railroad business.
 — Mr. James H. Taylor, Jr., returned yesterday from a week's visit to Charlotte.
 — Miss Nessie Wootton and Miss Nellie Cotchett left yesterday to visit friends in Tarboro.
 — Editor C. Ed Taylor, of the *Southport Standard*, was in the city yesterday on his way home.
 — Miss Mabel and Mr. Dixie Bowler are spending the holidays with Rev. and Mrs. Bambas, at New Bern.
 — Mr. J. G. Hall, an old Wilmington boy, now located at Mehis, Texas, who has been spending the Xmas holidays here, returns home to-day.
 — Mr. Frank H. Bagg, a Wilmington boy, now with the South Carolina Cotton Oil Co., at Columbia, S. C., will leave this afternoon, having spent the holidays here with relatives and friends.
 — Mrs. John Burkholder and two little daughters, accompanied by Mrs. S. V. Burkholder and Miss Estelle Burkholder, will leave to-day for a visit to friends and relatives in Brunswick, Ga.
 — Messrs. Eddie Higgins and Willie Grant, two young Wilmingtonians now at work in the Atlantic Coast Line shops at Florence, leave to-day, returning to work. They spent the holidays here with relatives.
 Judge Peebles' First Court.
 The next term of the Superior Court of New Hanover county, which will convene one week from to-morrow, will mark the debut of Judge Robert B. Peebles, of Northampton county, one of the newly elected Democratic judges. This term of court will be for the trial of criminal cases.

DANCE AT POINT CASWELL.

Many Wilmington People Attended the Elegant Affair Friday Night and Were Royally Entertained.

Quite a number of Wilmington folks attended the Christmas german at Point Caswell Friday night. It was given by the young gentlemen of that place and proved to be an affair of much elegance and of much pleasure.

The large hall, where the dance took place, was a scene of great loveliness, for, aside from the radiant light furnished by the handsomely gowned ladies and their gallant escorts, it was profusely decorated with ferns, pot plants and flowers. During a cessation of the festivities an elaborate repast was served.

The german was gracefully led by Mr. Leo Simpson, of Point Caswell, and Miss Camilla King, of South Carolina, who is a Wilmington visitor.

Among the guests present from here were Mrs. J. L. Paddison, Misses Nell Paddison, Esther Alexander, Mary O'Hanlon and Maud Paddison, and Mr. Frank Alexander.

The chaperones of the delightful occasion were Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Johnson, Bargar; Mrs. J. C. Paddison, South Carolina; Mrs. Irene Stewart, Mt. Airy; Mrs. James Thompson, South Carolina; Capt. and Mrs. J. C. Black, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Paddison and Mrs. Peterson, Point Caswell.

The music was furnished by an orchestra from Raleigh and the ball room decorations were made by a Richmond florist.

Mlle. De Lussan's Recital.
 It Will be a Grand Event to the Music-Loving People.

The recital of the celebrated singer Mlle. Zilie de Lussan at the Young Men's Christian Association Saturday night, January 10th, is being eagerly expected by Wilmington's music loving public. Although Mlle. de Lussan is known in this country only as an opera singer, she brings a large and varied repertoire of songs to her concert work, and her programme will be made up, aside from arias from her famous operatic roles, of songs by French, Italian, English and American composers, all sung in the original languages in which they were written. Her recital promises to be one of the important social events of the season.

The members of the Star Course will have the privilege of purchasing reserved seats at a special rate of \$1.00 while non-members of the Star Course will pay \$1.50. General admission will also be \$1.50. In order to secure seats for the special rate of \$1.00, members of the Star Course must reserve their seats at DeRose's book store, as a ticket will not be sold at the door for less than \$1.50.

ASSOCIATION OF ACADEMIES.
 Annual Meeting in Raleigh—Officers Elected—A Lively Discussion.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 27.—The North Carolina Association of Academies completed its sixth annual session here this afternoon. A. F. Sams, of Cary High School, was elected president; Martin H. Holt, Oak Ridge, vice president; F. S. Aldridge, Trinity Park High School, secretary and treasurer.

There was a lively discussion over proposed compulsory education legislation, sentiment being divided. A resolution endorsing compulsory education when adequate school houses are provided was withdrawn in view of evident opposition.

It is probable the association will discontinue its December meetings, and meet during the summer with the State Teachers' Assembly.

By Telephone.
 Hello! Hello!
 This is the office of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company!
 Yes!
 What's this industrial insurance I hear so much about?
 It's simply life and endowment insurance sold in small amounts, premiums payable weekly. It is sometimes called "Family Insurance."
 How so?
 Because all the healthy members of a family between the ages of one and seventy may be insured.
 What's the premium on these industrial policies?
 Five cents a week and upwards.
 Any difference in the cost to male and female?
 Not a bit.
 Any extras required for initiation fee, admission charge extra, assessments, medical examinations, etc.?
 No; not a cent; only the payment of the fixed weekly premium.
 I suppose policy-holders have to go to the office each week to pay?
 No; the company sends an agent every week to the homes of the policy-holders.
 Suppose a policy-holder moved?
 If he tells us where he is going, another agent will call and collect at his new address, or he will be instructed how to pay.
 How long after a person dies do you take to adjust his claim?
 Right off—the company telegraphs us authority to make payment the day the proofs are received and approved at the home office.
 A person doesn't have to die to get the amount of an Industrial Endowment policy does he?
 No; the money is paid to him in person, in cash, at the end of his endowment term; or, if he dies meanwhile, it is paid to his representatives.
 Suppose I was to give up after I have paid a number of years, do I lose what I have paid?
 Well, you don't want to suppose that, if you can't possibly hold it; but if you can't possibly pay, after you have been insured a prescribed time, a paid up policy, on which no further payment of premium is required, will be issued payable to you upon reaching a certain age or at death, according to the terms of the policy you originally selected.
 Well, say—Keep off, Central—I ain't through—wait a minute—Hello, Metropolitan! Are there many companies doing that kind of insurance in this country?
 Oh, yes, a dozen or so; but the Met-

SOCIETY THIS WEEK.

It Will be One Big Round of Brilliant Dances, Commencing To-morrow Night.

MANY VISITORS WILL ATTEND.

Four Germans and a Ball by Harmony Circle Will Make a Busy Week. Hollowbush's Orchestra Will Play for All.

The present week will be fraught with Yuletide pleasures of many descriptions. It will be a continue go from morn until late at night and day in and day out. The number and brilliant character of the sociables will far exceed anything of previous years.

The ball will be started merrily on its course to-morrow night by the Terpsichorean German Club. The dance will be an exceedingly pleasurable one, which will take place at the Masonic Temple hall and will be led by Mr. Frank Shepard.

Tuesday evening the usual Xmas event of L'Arise German Club will be given also at the Masonic Temple. It will, as of yore, be an affair of magnificence and will be attended by several scores of couples, which will include many visitors. The hall will be profusely and beautifully decorated for the occasion and each lady dancer will receive a handsome souvenir. The german will be led by Mr. Clayton Giles, Jr.

The dance of L'Agile Gollion Club, Mr. O. A. Wiggins, Jr., leader, will be Wednesday night's society attraction. It will likewise be a big event and the Masonic Temple will again be the joyful scene.

None of the affairs will surpass in grandeur and pleasure the recherche reception Thursday evening by Harmony Circle. It will take place at the club's cozy and handsome home on Frost street, near Princess.

Friday night Miss Cammie Lord will give a delightful german in honor of the pupils of her senior dancing class. The complimentary dance will be given in Germania Hall.

For all these dances, as well as for other events during the week, the superb Hollowbush Orchestra will play. They have arranged a "awell" programme of holiday music for each occasion.

Also this week the usual Sunday school and society Christmas trees will take place. There will be a festive tree about each night and some evenings there will be two.

NOTICE.
 To Orion Lodge No. 67, I. O. O. F.
 BROTHERS—You are requested to attend the funeral of our deceased brother, J. M. C. Fisher, which takes place at Southport this afternoon, at 2 o'clock. The funeral will leave the city at 10 o'clock this morning. Reduced rates for the trip.
 L. TATE BOWDEN, R. S. Sec'y.

A SUGGESTION.
 If you have a cough that is troubling you call on James M. Hall, the druggist, on N. E. corner Fifth and Castle streets, over either phone and he will send a twenty-five cent bottle of Com's Syrup of White Pine, which will quickly quiet that raw sore feeling in the throat. Just the thing for the children.
 32 Doses 25 cents.

What For Christmas?
 That old puzzling question is up again. Read the answer in my window.
 Fresh shipment Willey's Chocolates and Bon Bons; none nicer.
HARDIN'S
 Palace Pharmacy,
 126 South Front Street.
 dec 23 tf Call both 'Phones 55.

Important Notice.
 We wish to inform our regular customers as well as the public at large that we have just received a consignment of Foreign Wines, which we offer to everybody at the following low prices for a short time only:
 Rhine Wine, Vintage 1898, per gal., \$1.00
 Port " " 1900, " " 1.00
 Claret " " 1900, " " 1.00
 Port " " 1890, " " 2.00
 Samples FREE at store.
 Best Patent Flour, O. S. B., per barrel \$4.00.
 Agents for celebrated Gowers Irish Stout. No. 6 North Water St.
 Bell 'Phone 165. no 2 tf

"El Capitan."
 High quality 10c Cigar.

"CUBAN BLOSSOM."
 No better 5c Cigar.

We guarantee the sale of these goods, so if not sold we take them back. We accept the risk, you get the gain. You are safe on a trade of that kind. If the goods did not have both quality and merit we would not talk so loud. Try them for

XMAS PRESENTS.
VOLLERS & HASHAGEN,
 Wholesale Distributors.
 dec 21 tf

To Our Friends
 AND PATRONS, AND
THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

We extend our hearty good cheer, and the Season's Good Greetings, with our sincere thanks for the liberal patronage bestowed upon us during the past year.

We cordially invite you to

Wear Our Shoes
 During 1903.

Respectfully,
Mercer & Evans Co.,
 Same Old Place.
 dec 21 tf

WELSBACH LIGHTS.

WELSBACH DROP LIGHTS.
 BRAY BURNERS.
 GAS ARC LAMPS.
 ENCLOSED ARC LIGHTS.
 INCANDESCENT LIGHTS.
 NEAREST LIGHTS.
 (The newest thing in Electric Lighting.)

The days of Tallow Dips, Candles and Oil Lights are passing. In the 20th century they are out of date.

CONSOLIDATED RAILWAYS, LIGHT AND POWER CO.
 dec 28 3t

THE SUPPLY OF HARD COAL IN THIS

City is about exhausted, and present outlook that it cannot be replenished before Spring. In the meantime we are prepared to supply you with the very best

BITUMINOUS LUMP COAL AT \$5 PER TON.
 Which is as cheap as cut wood at \$2.50 per cord.
 This coal is equally as good in every way as any Coal sold on this market.
 *Phone your orders to us and they will be filled promptly.

Wm. E. Worth & Co.
 Phones—Bell 94. Inter-STATE 146. dec 28 tf

Special Offering
MEN AND BOYS'
Overcoats
and Sweaters.

NEW LOT CARHART UNDERWEAR at

REHDER'S BIG DEPARTMENT STORE.
 615, 617 and 619 North Fourth Street,
 Car fare paid on purchases of \$2.00 and over.
 dec 28 tf

THANKS!

I desire to express my sincere thanks to my friends for the most liberal patronage they have extended me during the past year, and with the hope that they have had a merry Christmas, wish them a happy and prosperous "New Year."
 If any one has neglected to do their duty Xmas, or wish to "reciprocate" New Year, I have a few "left overs" at a reduced price.

N. F. PARKER,
 Furniture and Furniture Novelties, 111 Market St.
 Bell 'Phone 613. Inter-STATE 421.
 dec 25 tf

A Happy New Year to You!

One and all, of our many friends and patrons. We extend our best wishes for your health and prosperity for 1903, and solicit a continuation of your

SHOE TRADE,

Which we hope to merit by giving you the **BEST SHOES** for the least money.

GEO. R. FRENCH & SONS.
 dec 28 tf