

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

The festive Christmas season has come again and all mankind is indulging in pleasure and sport. The little folks are eagerly and impatiently awaiting the coming of Santa Claus with his stores of precious gifts...

But amid all the merriment of Christmas there are some sad hearts, and in many family circles there is a "vacant chair" and there are others to whom on account of poverty and disease not even Christmas brings a glimmer of joy or ray of hope...

The Record extends the compliments of the season to all its readers, and wishes them each and every one a Merry Christmas!

RAILROAD TO EDENTON.

A grand celebration was held at Edenton, on the 18th inst., in honor of the completion of the railroad to that town from Norfolk. This will mark the dawn of a new and brighter era in the life of that ancient town...

CONGRESSIONAL DOTS.

No business of importance has yet been transacted in Congress. The republican members have been busy in securing for their constituents the subordinate positions about the House of Representatives.

By Mr. Stables, to repeal the internal revenue laws of the United States, and to abolish all taxes and offices enacted by them; also, giving to all religious denominations civil rights in Indian Territory; also to abolish the taxes on brandies made of apples, peaches and grapes; and to provide for erecting a United States court-house and post office building at Greensboro.

By Mr. Vance, for the exchange of the trade dollar for the standard trade dollar.

By Gen. Cox, for the relief of Christopher Holt; and to repeal the internal revenue taxes.

Both branches of Congress adjourned yesterday to enjoy the Christmas holidays, and will reassemble on the 5th of January. Before adjournment the Senate confirmed the appointment of ex-Senator Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, as Secretary of State, and Hon. Benjamin H. Brewster, of Philadelphia, as Attorney General.

GOV. JARVIS' DEFENCE.

Gov. Jarvis has published in the News and Observer a long letter defending himself against the resolutions of a meeting of the citizens of Chatham, held at this place on the 23rd of November. As those resolutions were published in the Record we think it due to Gov. Jarvis to publish his reply, for we believe in dealing justly with all men, and more especially when a man occupies so high an official position.

"It will, no doubt, be remembered that in the early winter of 1880 Mr. Best came to Raleigh to negotiate a purchase of the Western North Carolina Railroad. He came with the most pronounced assurance of his ability. He was antagonized by a very strong and a very respectable sentiment in the State.

The Mad Cut circular, conceived in a spirit of spite and issued in secrecy, full of misrepresentations and insinuation, created in the State a condition of things which made the future of the Western North Carolina Railroad very uncertain, to say the least of it. The proposition of Mr. Best to buy and complete the road without further cost to the State, coming right upon the heels of the Mad Cut boom, precipitated upon me a condition of things which required me to trust him. I was cautioned in many ways not to do it. I felt that the best interest of the State required me to do it.

In 1872-73 a very liberal charter was granted by the Legislature of North Carolina to the Midland North Carolina Railway Company. Some time had not passed since Mr. Best had control of this charter. During the winter he repeatedly told me it was his plan to lease the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad and to extend it to Salisbury. He said he was advised by the best of counsel that he could compel, through the courts, a reconveyance of the Western road, and that he would soon begin a suit for that purpose.

June my efforts to bring about the re-assignment referred to in the agreement. I have steadily pursued this course, using all means that I considered legitimate and proper, because I felt that the success of the Midland scheme in its entirety was of such value and importance to the State as to require me to do it. There is a difference of opinion among many good people as to the propriety of my having made this promise of the 25th of May, as well as a difference of opinion as to whether I have kept it.

The Legislature adjourned about the middle of March. Mr. Best left the city about that time. It may have been a short while before I heard nothing more of the Midland scheme till the middle of May. On the 30th of April, when the extension was granted on certain conditions to be subsequently performed by the assignees of Mr. Best, it was not known to me that Mr. Best would ever be heard of again in this connection. Nor had I heard of his Boston syndicate when, on the 14th of May, I reaffirmed my action as one of the commissioners of the 20th of April. I was first told of its success by a friend of mine on the 15th of May, and I then told him I had signed the extension.

The result of this talk was the memorandum of the 25th of May. The Midland project had my full sympathy then and it has it now. I would be false to myself, false to my record, false to my State, false to her people, and to her best interest, did I withhold from such a scheme anything in my power to push it forward. No misrepresentations of Mr. Best or any of his newborn supporters could sting me into withholding from it any support that I can give it.

Here I might rest my case. But I conclude that they have done as much as they could do in the time they have had, and that they have complied with the spirit of their agreement. So have I. I did not wait, as I might have done, till they had built and constructed several miles of road, but having faith in those whom I had met, I commenced as early as

Having said this much in explanation of my course as a commissioner, I submit the question at issue to the verdict of that tribunal to which I have never yet been afraid to appeal - the people. If they shall say I have erred, I regret it. I did what I thought was right.

General News.

The State of Iowa has nearly completed its new capitol at a cost of \$1,800,000.

A corrected list of the victims of the Vienna fire gives the total number as 764.

Dr. Hayes, best known as an explorer of the Arctic regions, died at his home in New York, at the age of forty-nine years.

Two desperadoes, having made themselves obnoxious in a mining camp in Colorado, were pursued and finally shot to death by the miners.

In Dublin the police have discovered a large amount of concealed arms and ammunition, together with papers relating to Fenian movements.

The State of Georgia has one town - Mason - in which there is a queer superstition. The merchants say that when an organ grinder enters the town the price of cotton falls.

Eight nihilists have been arrested in St. Petersburg. The police seized a quantity of bombs concealed in oranges. A letter from London blaming the conspirators for their inactivity was also found.

In asking over the ashes of the late fire at the Misses Hunter's boarding house in Morristown, N. J., the workmen found a \$700 diamond ring, a gold watch studded with diamonds, \$75 in gold and \$10.00 of jewelry.

As a result of the investigation of the charges against members of the Ninth Massachusetts regiment while at Richmond, Va., and Yorktown, twenty of the offenders have been summarily dismissed by order of the Commander-in-Chief.

Capt. Larzer, of the Norwegian ship Alexander, has rescued a boat crew of the men of the French ship France, which had been abandoned three weeks before in mid-ocean. The rescued men were on the border of starvation. They were living on only one half of a spoiled biscuit each day.

The Peabody hotel, at Memphis, Tennessee, caught fire Saturday morning, at the breakfast hour, from a defective stove. The fire was soon under control, although the kitchen, etc., was badly wrecked. The hotel was filled with guests, and a general stampede ensued, many persons carrying their trunks on their shoulders.

Chicago has a peculiar style of shop lifting. The "lady," elegantly dressed enters a crowded millinery store, where she tries on an expensive bonnet. While she is looking at her appearance in the mirror she modestly requests the saleswoman to have the elastic on the old hat changed. When the saleswoman returns the "lady" and the new bonnet have disappeared.

A bill will be introduced into the Virginia Legislature in a few days, providing for the removal of the political disabilities of quite a number of persons who were engaged in dueling during the recent canvass, as well as several who are charged with having resorted to the code during the political campaign in this State in 1879.

Coffee drinkers should read the advertisement in another column headed Good Coffee.

Father is Getting Well. My daughter says, "How much better father is since he used Hop Bitters." He is getting well after his long suffering from a disease declared incurable, and we are so glad that he uses your Bitters - A lady of Rochester, N. Y. - Union Herald.

Whipping Her Husband. From the Chicago Tribune. A young man and his sister were hired to teach a school in Clay county, Kentucky, in partnership, the young lady to teach the first half of the session and her brother the other. Very soon after the young lady began teaching one of the largest male students became her "fellow" and in a very short time they were married. Not long however, after they were married the young groom and wife were one of the bride's students engaged in a little "knock-down." Each of the offenders was brought before the fair depute of the road, was given an impartial trial and the young groom was proven to be equally guilty with the other and was given his choice of leaving the school or taking a whipping. He chose the latter, so his newly made bride did herself fair justice in the use of the rod, gave her husband not a few stripes, and cutting the blood out in not a few places, since then everything has passed off pleasantly.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

M. T. NORRIS, of Raleigh. J. P. WYATT, of Raleigh. PHILIP TAYLOR, of Chatham. NORRIS, WYATT & TAYLOR, Importers to M. T. Norris & Co. WHOLESALE GROCERS & COTTON COMMISSION MERCHANTS, Raleigh, N. C.

Hardware of Every Description, BASH, DOORS, GLASS, LIME, CEMENT, RUBBER & LEATHER BELTING, AC. RALEIGH, N. C.

Advertisement for Wagon featuring an illustration of a wagon and the text "ALL RIGHT" and "WAGON".

Advertisement for IRON BITTERS, A TRUE TONIC, A PERFECT STRENGTHENER, A SURE REVIVER. BROWN CHEMICAL CO., Baltimore, Md.

Advertisement for BITTERS.

Advertisement for Shaw & Harris, EXPRESS STEAMBOAT CO. Steamer Schedule.

Advertisement for DRY GOODS! CLOTHING! Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps. No notions, Groceries, Hardware, Crochery.

Advertisement for WOODSELL & WYNNE, Grocers & Commission Merchants! No. 4, Martin Street, Raleigh, N. C.

Advertisement for PATENTS. J. A. McDONALD, WM. WOOLCOTT, Raleigh, N. C.

Advertisement for Dry Goods, Clothing, Notions, Hats, Boots and Shoes, MILLINERY GOODS, & C. WASHINGTON and Market Streets.

Advertisement for NORTH CAROLINA STATE LIFE INSURANCE CO. OF RALEIGH, N. CAR. F. H. CAMERON, President.

Advertisement for MANNING & WOMACK, Attorneys and Counsellors at Law, PITTSBORO, N. C.