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Six Months,

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1892. Christmas in the South.

The Chattanooga Times says "the was fixed upon as in happy consonance his middle name being Denton. joyous of their beathen festivities. It loftier faith.

served Christmas with peculiar joyous- sentence of twenty years. ness until the advent of puritanism which at once set its rigid and sour face against all manifestation of human cheerfulness. Puritanism ignored Christmas as it did all other recognized church testivals. It affected to see in them the perpetuation of pagan license, when, in reality, it only saw the wickedness of throwing the rays ity which it had prescribed as the rule of human conduct. It proscribed the obbuke to sour asceticism by the presentation of human life in some of its bright-

frolic, and also faithful cherishers of all fore less profitable. those traditions and customs which so The complaint, if it all as a time for the display of the kindly, and demand. cordial feeling which unites the human family for once in the year in close untoo many as the justification for the perpetration of all kinds of noises, hideous, barbarous, irrational.

In the reckless din of fire arms, in the maudlin abuses or dangerous excesses lization is shamed. Christianity is in-tractive to visitors. sulted by the spectacle presented in too many places in the south at that period when the birth of Him who brought with Him into the world an era not only of peace and of good will but of right and rational conception of human conduct and human destiny. Heathendom|might exult at the contrast eyen its excesses might present to the mad orgies or senseless pleasures of enlightened (?) Christians which mark the celebration of the birthday of Him they affect to welcome and worship as a God, and whose service they seek to impose upon all the unbelieving world.

Hereafter the south may profit by iudicious blending of northern philosophy or indifference, with southern fervor and traditional habits and customs. If the one takes too little account of the very main spring of Christianity, the other by its excesses runs into the other extreme of converting what should be a joyful memorial into a heathen saturnalia, amid the unbridled license of which a heathen himself would stand abashed and humiliated.

Good Detective Work.

A most elever piece of detective work has just been concluded by the Pinkertons. It will be remembered that in November last the Adams express was robbed near a suburb of St. Louis of several and dollars. From the first view of the case the robbers left very little in the way of a clew on which to follow of the lack of anythis

near Kansas City, were inquired into.

It was at once found that Sly had been in St. Louis recently, and a little later description of Sly, and it at once became chief reason that Christmas has never the business of the detectives to find out blessing that ever came to the farmer. been as popular a holiday in the north that the party had gone west. It was as it has been and still is in the south is ascertained that at Omaha the four men owing to Puritan influence." This is and the one woman had parted com- this blessing if it ever comes, and to the true to large extent; but not for the rea- pany, Sly going on to Denver and thence press we look for the agitation of this son given, which is, that it was not the to southern California. Several of the birthday anniversary of the Saviour. cities and towns there were visited, but will mean more, in the long run, if prop-That the precise natal day is not ob nothing was seen of Sly until last Satur-erly undertaken and systematically prosserved is unquestionally true, because no day when a man very closely resembling ecuted, than any measure which has enrecords are preserved to fix an exact him stepped into the postoffice at Los gaged the attention of our legislators make this comment upon what we condate. But as such an august event did Angeles. Pinkerton at once arrested during the past quarter of a century. happen, the sentiment of pious reverence him, and on his person was found the acting upon the hearts of those inspired express messenger's gold watch and two by its momentous significance naturally | thousand dollars in money. Sly said his demanded the observance of some fixed name was A. S. Denton which was in itmemorial day. The 25th of December self a foolish admission of his identity,

with human thoughts and customs, the The detectives feel confident that the period of the winter solstice, the period other members of the gang of robbers at which the dormant forms of nature will be arrested in a few days. Thechain make sign of waking again to life, turn- of evidence is that Sly and his gang ing upward again after the sun had rented the deserted house, in which was traversed in its downward path to the found, after their hasty departure, some lowest point of decadence. It was also half destroyed express packages that will the period of the year in which the north- be identified as having been taken last ern nations of Europe had given them- November at the time of the robbery. selves up to the celebration of the most | The watch in Sly's possession will go far toward convicting him, and doubtless was an easy and a natural transition to other evidence will be obtained in the them to substitute for their accustomed arrest of the other robbers. It was a pagan observances the purer and more long, hard chase from the very slight rational methods which marked the be- clews, and the detectives are entitled to ginning of the practice of a new and no small praise for their work. Sly has been in the Missouri penitentiary before, The English speaking people had ob- and his last arrest probably means a

Rents and Houses.

upon the same churlish principle that it find to their surprise that in Asheville, in the hands of a very few individuals

But it should be remembered that the But puritanism has passed away. the situation in many cities, where the people a great service in so doing. What was once unamiable principle has rule is that houses are seldom rented for become modified into indifferent custom. less than a year, while leases are often The northern people acquiesce, rather taken for several years, thus assuring than participate in, the hilarities of the owner a steady income on his prop-Christmas. The southern people, largely erty. Here in Asheville, we should say, the descendants of those who sided with the rule is rather the other way, long the royalists, the antagonists of the pur- leases being the exception, and incomes itans, and the dear lovers of fun and from rented houses less steady and there-

endear Christmas to sentiment as well that should cure itself. It rents, all things as to festivity, adhere to their old ideas considered, are higher here than elseof the character of the period with al- where capital will in time flow in and most exaggerated tenacity. Christmas lower them. So long, however, as houses at the south is still eagerly welcomed rent freely for the prices asked, just so and universally observed, by some in its long will those prices remain at the prestrue character as a Christian festival, by ent figures. It is a question of supply

In some classes of houses Asheville is plainly deficient. One of these is the selfish sympathy, by many as a period block of several residences under one roof of license and intemperance, and by far with all the modern improvements. Such would be very attractive to those from other cities who may stay but a short time, but who prefer not to go to a hotel. Another, is the house of three or deafening explosion of fire works, in four rooms, well finished and in a good the senseless bray of horns, and in the locality and of comparitively low rent. Our houses of this kind are now mainly in the uses of intoxicating liquors, civi- built too cheap and in localities not at-

Public Roads and Convicts.

North Carolina in enacting a law whereby certain classes of violators of the law may be put to work upon the public highways of the counties in which their offenses were committed, is one step in the right direction.

There is no way in which the convicts of North Chrolina could be utilized with greater benefit to all the people than by putting every man of them to work upon the public roads. In this way they will in no sense come into competition with honest labor, a complaint often heard of late years, and with much reason and justice because it cannot be done without degrading the largest and most deserving portion of our citizenship.

There is not an honest laborer in North Carolina but detests the working of roads, and it is no more than the truth to say that nine out of ten who do and fair work.

American agriculturalist has to deal today. It has been demonstrated by those farmers of the United States lose more money every year by reason of bad roads, than they pay out in the way of ing the McKinley bill piecemeal. taxes for all purposes.

With the convict force of the state m up. But on general principles, and kept constantly at work year by year and he probably will not be till he proves ing more upon the public highways, upon a fixed himself shrewder than, say, Carlisle and ng, the whereabouts of one Al- plan and in a systematic way, North Gorman. And as for Speaker Crisp,

WEEKLY CITIZEN. burglar and thief, with headquarters realize that they were gaining infinitely him. He was thought to be one of the more than the cost, that of their maintenance

> THE CITIZEN proposes to agitate this the police of St. Louis found in the sub- question, and endeavor to make it a urbs a house that had been deserted in distinct issue in the election of the next such haste immediately after the robbery | members of our state legislature, and see that not even the personal property of if is not possible to inaugurate a system the inmates had been removed. The whereby North Carolina may eventually description of one of these inmates was a hope to have public roads that will be the pride of the state and the greatest

And it is hoped that the press will lend their aid. To the press will be attributed question, which may mean more, and

Our Government of Cities.

The foreign countries, I found, beat us in governing cities. The jobbery and they can throw away every Atlantic state from Maine to Virginia and yet corruption which too often scandalize elect a president next year the course is known there."

cities out of the hands of the politicians. most of them, are managed in a way grist mill. They are managed in that way too by men who conduct their own who get the best talent they can regard. ened by experience, can devise for less of whether it votes one ticket or another or none at all. When these same men come to run the delicate affairs of a municipality, however, they forget those same business principles and the people suffer.

that it is part of one of those "effete mongers coming to Asheville from different scorn at. That city secures the very tisan republican comment to condemn a parts of the country that house rents best business talent to be had, and a are high here, and the same comment is citizen is not allowed to plead that he

Large Salaries.

As LARGE salaries as the president of the United States receives are not unnoted race starter, who is considered to will call for. be without a peer in handling the flag, the Saratoga and Guttenburg racing associations. He will receive a salary of \$25,000 a year, and his contract will last for two years." It is very hard if how it is possible for any man to be worth so much in such a capacity.

A "Public" Frial.

Several months ago one "Buck" Murray was tried in Michigan for murder and convicted. He was a bardened criminal and was given a life sentence. There was no doubt of his guilt, but his The action of the last legislature of counsel carried the case to the supreme court of the state on the ground that Murry did not have a "public trial" in the full meaning of the constitution, the lower court having ordered no one to be admitted to the court room who was 'disorderly or uncleanly." It is a most amazing thing that a supreme court worthy of the name should have granted new trial on this ground, but it has been done, and Murray may now escape altogether, as it will be difficult to get together the witnesses whose testimony convicted him on the former trial. The technicalities of the law are often more powerful than the law itself.

Hill's Man ? Not Much. Some of our democratic contemporaries who have been greatly worried because Speaker Crisp was Hill's man, and would not therefore be able to speak his own mind, will have to readjust work the roads do so under protest, and themselves. Crisp, it was asserted, was therefore never do and never will do full in favor of passing a free coinage bill this year and of not passing a general And this question of public roads is tariff bill; hence Hill must have dictated really the most vital with which the that policy, and independence was dead or very nearly so. But here comes Hill and out of his mouth he speaketh, and making a study of the question, that the he says that he does not advise passing a free coinage bill this session, and that he does not think at all well of attack-

The fact is, Senator Hill is not a democratic leader yet in national politics, ert Denton Sly, a noted train robber, Carolina farmers in a few years would give him a little time to show what is in most promising legislators while on the floor of the house. THE CITIZEN has lots of faith in him yet.

In Bad Company.

The Charleston News and Courier prints three columns of criticisms of Speaker Crisp's appointments of the house committees. Of those three columns, nine out of the nineteen papers quoted to sustain the News and Courier's attack on Crisp are democratic papers; the remainder are out-and-out republican or mugwump or "independent."

Of all these criticisms there is but one that is entitled, from the tone and substance of the comment, to consideration, and that is from the New York Post. It

'It is with unfeigned regret that we

sider a fundamental mistake-that of organizing the house upon other than the ines of de facto party leadership. If the democrats in congress fancy that the government of our cities are un. free and open. We advise them not to ry that experiment. They cannot find by the most diligent search one northern The moral of Senator Vance's remark state that has ever been carried on the is that we ought to turn over a new leaf free coinage issue when that issue was at once and take the government of our lelt to be a decisive one, so that voters should really take it into their calculations when going to the polls. Now, it The affairs of many of our cities, if not the south wants to force that issue upon the north, she will get in the end what that would not be tolerated in a first-rate Mr. Mills predicted a few weeks ago. She will lose free coinage and tariff reform, and she will get a force bill and as near an approach to negro supremacy as the business on business principles only, and energies of the federal government, sharp-

> This will bear thinking over, but most of the comment the News and Courier caring to buy a lawsuit as an appendage reprints is on this order, from the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, a republican

paper:
"Mr. Crisp seems to think that he was Berlin is one of the best examples of a elected speaker for the purpose of making well governed city, notwithstanding it safer to bet upon the election of a republican president in 1892."

We submit that the News and Courier democrat with

COMMANDER B. H. MCCALLA WAS occasionally heard from residents whom basn't time to devote to the city's affairs; court-martialed a year and a half ago travel has given the opportunity for he must attend to them; and, as a matmaking comparison. Persons who have ter of fact, he does attend to them, with vessel, one of his threats being, "If you player of the government in the building of cheerfulness upon the gloomy auster- lived in other cities, some of them with a devotion and an amount of intelli- smile at me I will kill you." He every advantage of the best of schools, gence such as we almost never see in an treated nearly all his subordinates with paved streets, good sidewalks, a great American city. In these well governed great brutality, "cutting them down" servance of the merry Christmas holiday variety of entertainments, and the like, foreign cities a great deal of power is put with a sword when he fancied that of the lithograph. He did not, however, proscribed bear baiting, not because it with few of the attractions enu- and they are held to strict accounta- was suspension from the service for three would relieve his temper. His sentence was cruelty to the bear, but that it was merated, rents are as high as in all ex- bility for what they do as well as for years, and the president has just remitpleasure to the spectators. Christmas cept the very largest cities. With build- what they do not do. The result is that ted the unexpired portion of the term. festivity was not sin against God or ing material and labor as cheap as they every dollar of city money secures a dol- As McCalla was a bully it is probable offence against morals so much as reare here the prices asked for houses often lar's worth of work or material, and Gen. he is also a coward, but if war should sents ideas, sentiments, aspirations, not P, M, B. Young over-pays are unknown. break out with Chili he should be sent organized purpose. Ordinarily such a We wish Senator Vance had enlarged hence to work out the brute in him by situation here is somewhat different from on this topic. He would be doing the actual conflict with an enemy that can strike back. As a matter of fact, his apideas, sentiments and aspirations in pearance in the service again is a dis-

grace to it. It is very apparent that the United common. It is believed that several in- States has on its hands no small job in hostility to his candidacy, it has been surance company presidents get as much attempting to rid the Texas border of the general expectation that he will reand perhaps half a dozen heads of rail- Garzia. We of course harbor him at our ceive the nomination. ways, while there are "promoters" who financial peril, for if he succeeds on our less confident, perhaps, than it was a do not think they are doing well unless soil in becoming formidable enough to year ago, or even a month ago. they make what many of us would con- inflict considerable injury on Mexico we sider a fortune every twelve months. The should be liable for the damage done unlatest interesting report of this kind is lesss it could be shown that we did some eastern racing track officials. After purposes of this revolutionist. We shall ruffles to a man who is in need of a announced that "James F. Caldwell, the Garza affair than our quarrel with Chili man who seeks help. He is sick man

THE Texas Rangers who are new to had signed a contract to start solely for be put on the trail of Garzia, the Mexican revolutionist, form a body of police perhaps the most effective, for the work they are intended, in the world. They are always mounted when on duty and not impossible for the unitiated to see can start in pursuit of a criminal on one minute's notice. They almost never fail to effect a capture and are such good Indian fighters that the Apaches have a circad of them and seldom invade Texas. They will drive Garzia over the border if they do not catch him and hang him.

THE New York World is in error when t says that "the name of Scanlan has been added to the lenghtening list of clever and favorite actors who have succumbed to the strain of stage life." What Scanlan succomb to was the strain of a disreputable life off the stage. The wrecks of actors better than he are strewn all along the gilded way he choose to follow, and he went not without warning to his fate.

IF Chili wishes to arbitrate her difficulty with the United States this country can hardly refuse to submit the questions at issue. As we said some weeks ago, to go to war with Chili without having exhausted every honorable means to avoid a conflict would be disgraceful to a naiton whose policy should be peace with all the earth.

The Statesville Landmark thinks The News was imposed on in its account of a econd atttempt at train wrecking, tain's bridge. It says men there know nothing at Bostain's about it. We were given the points by a railroad man in a position to know. harlotte News.

Well, let us have the name of the "rail oad man in position to know."

THE Hawaiian Islands have asked for 9,000 square feet for an exhibit at the World's fare at Chicago. This is considerably more than the state of North Carolina will occupy unless she wakes up pretty soon.

No Two Bites In His Cherry. From the Chicago Herald.

Jay Gould boasts that he never took s salary from any corporation with which he was connected. He took the corporNOT FOR FREE COINAGE.

Senator Hill Is Not Far from Grover Cleveland.

From His Speech at Albany. "Shall the people's verdict of the billion congress have execution or not? Shall the democratic party, by keeping before the people the billion congress issue of 1890, keep for the people the power to add to their verdict of 1890 its execution in 1892?

"How can that best be done? At Elmira I suggested this course: Pass no free coinage bills; pass only needful appropriation bills, enforcing economy; grapple to undo the worst work of the billion congress; demand a repeal of the Sherman silver law and the two Mc-Kinley laws. No small issues, no untimely issues, no new issues, no other issues. Grapple to undo the work of the billion congress. Put the country and its silver laws and its tariff laws back where they stood before our party's misadventure in 1888, and before the infamous republican revolution."

A North Carolinian Did It.

rom the Chattanonga Times. The esteemed Knoxville Journal announces, editorially, that the firm of McNulty & Ransom informs the Knoxville Council that the sale of Knoxville's \$500,000 improvement bonds, is "off:" and that the failure to sell to the New York Mutual Life Insurance company, was because a gentleman residing in North Carolina, but owning property and being a taxpaver in Knoxville, notified the proposing purchaser that he-the North Carolina-Knoxvillian-would enjoin the city from paying interest on the securities. The insurance company, not of the bonds, withdrew its offer for the

The Jefferson Davis Hail Bond. From the Richmond Disputch.

A paragraph about the disappearance It is frequently the comment of stran- archies" we love to point the finger of is in small business when it reprints parthe press. This is an old story revived, time ago. The original document is in the handwriting of Mr. William Flegen- to come and sold to some relic-hunter. Subse quently, it is said, this same employe forged another bond, had it lithographed in tac-simile, and sold numbers of copies

deposit the forgery in the court records.

From the New York World.

Mr. Cleveland is the candidate of the candidacy for a nomination would be hopeless because organization is supposed usually to count for more than nominating conventions. In Mr. Cleveland's case there seems to be a widespread conviction that the rule will not hold good. In spite of the organized

From an interview with Mr. Keely.

told in connection with a conference of everything in our power to defeat the dear sir, you might as well give a set of "Moral treatment in inebriety? My a meeting of theirs the other day it was probably burn more powder in this shirt as to talk religion to a drunken and must be treated accordingly, and all the advice and moralizing in world will be absolutely without effect upon him. But I say without the slightest hesitancy than the result of the rapid increase in the number of men who have been cured by the Keeley system, means just one thing-prohibition in this coun-The prohibition party will soon be like Othello-minus an occupation."

The Independents' Position.

rom the Springfield Republican. The course of events in the next six months will largely shape the lines of the approaching campaign. If wise and patriotic counsels shall prevail in the democratic leadership, that party may still offer the best practical resource for the time. We regard this as the more probable solution. We incline to think that the plot to pass a free silver bill and so prevent Cleveland's personality and the simple issue of tariff reform will justify the independents in again supporting the democratic party

Effect of a Free Silver Plank.

Prom the Charleston News and Courier. The Atlanta Journal is talking right out in meeting in a way that must make the heads of some of its more cautious contemporaries fairly swim. "With a free silver plank in the democratic platform," says the Journal, "we might save Georgia to the democracy and come within 50,000 votes of carrying New York." This is a very forcible way of teaching a wholesome political lesson.

To Obtain Belief.

Flom the Raleigh News and Observ When will the people regain their old habit of advocating practical measures? If they would only do so, and with one voice advocate the repeal of the tax on state bank notes, they could obtain relief. But as long as they set their faces against feasible measures and insist on what congress will not adopt nor the president agree to, they are wasting

Bort of a "Stand-Off." From the Mecklenburg Times.

The earnings over expenses of the per itentiary for the quarter ended Nov. 30 were \$9,608.52.—Statesville Landmark The penitentiary and the evangelists are about the only things that pay expenses this season.

THE TATTLER.

What He Sees and Hears Worth Talking About.

Well! Here we are, right into '92, and going at the same old '91 I-want-to-getthere gait. Old Father Time has thrown to the wind the 365th card in the pack. and-what are you going to do about it? Have you turned over a new leaf that is to be filled up like last year's? If last year's was filled as it should have been, then you are right, but if not, well it's high time you were making a few resolutions for your guidance in '92. There is nothing like a set of good resolutions well kept from one year's end to another, so I'm told.

Coming to Rev. Mr. Byrd's reply to my remarks commenting on his reference to the "drunken printer." I did not say, nor intend to leave anyone to infer, that he had made an attack on the Asheville printers. I did get my information "second hand." Two of Mr. Byrd's hearers on that day told me that that gentleman had said something like this: He had met a man in an office in Asheville who was drunk. Some words were spoken, and the man, in reply to a remark, said, 'I am not a sinner; I'm a printer. That's where I thought the smile came in, but I suppose I haven't the necessary discriminating sense of humor. I said that I thought the sermon would have been as good with that reference to the orinter left out, and this humble opinion vet most respectfully beg to maintain. Mr. Byrd says he is reliably informed that the man belonged to the printers' union. I hope the union printers will not feel hurt over that reminder that there is a drunken printer in their ranks. But, then, there are, I am sorry to say, men in every profession who love their "bit-

And now I want to say a word or so on Mr. Byrd's declaration that "tattlers usually get their stock second-hand." Perhaps he knows; perhaps not. The name which I selected for this colof the Jefferson Davis bail bond from the umn nearly a year ago seems to worry United States Circuit court records in some people. But I don't think I shall fact, I have about concluded that I am satisfied with it, and, Providence and the facts having all been published some THE CITIZEN permitting, hope to have my weekly chat with you for some time When I want to change, I will advertise in The Citizen for sugges

> In closing his letter to THE CITIZEN, Mr. Byrd shows that he has been guilty of doing just what he says "tattlers" do get their stock "second-hand." He intimates that omebody forced me to say that I did not mean the aforesaid "somebody" in my article on deadbeats two weeks ago. He says the man called at my officethe next morning after my article was printed! The "next day" was Sunday, and I am hardly ever in "my office" on Sunday. But allowing Mr. Byrd one day for mistakes in "second-hand" matter, still it would have been a physical impossibility for anyone to have seen me at my office. I have said nothing that I will retract, and have retracted nothing. I challenge Mr. Byrd o prove his assertion, made so boldly. He can't do so.

The First National bank is undergoing changes that will make it one of the finest buildings in Asheville. But in my opinion it would add greatly to the beauty of the pile if the old stucco were discorded and the entire building left to show just what it is-good honest brick. There can be nothing prettier. Look, for example, at the new Reynolds block and others near the square

The people who will miss Rev. Dr. Nelson, the First Baptist pastor, are not all members of his congregation. Members of other churches recognize his ability and his Christian character and influence, while many of Asheville's poor people, who have been ministered unto by this good man, will testify to Dr. Nelson's willingness at all times to look after their physical as well as spiritual wants May his days be long in the continuation of his noble work.

The Tattler.

Louisiana Necds Help. From the Chicago Herald.

The Louisiana lottery is a far greater curse than Monte Carlo, more despicable in its methods and more subversive of the general welfare. The decent people of Louisiana are engaged in a desperate effort to destroy it. They should receive the active assistance of every honest and patriotic citizen of this country.

Horn Blowers, Beware! From the Raleigh Chronicle

Late Christmaseve a rather jolly negro blew a horn in the face of a woman who. accompanied by a man, approached in be opposite direction on the street, There was a quick blow, perhaps with a sandbag, and the horn blower, when tound, was unconscious.

"ANOTHER STORY."

Rudyard Kipling is soon to be married and he will find out that matrimouy "is another story" sure enough.-St. Paul

Mr. Kipling is going to apologize for his ill-natured remarks on America by marrying an American woman. Thus the whirliging of time brings its revenge.

—Kausas City Times.

Now that Rudyard Kipling has fallen in love with an American girl he will view "the states," and all that is therein through new and rose-colored spectar Boston Globe.

Rudyard Kipling is to wed an American girl, and we wish him joy. She may train him into a decent regard for the American people—"but that's another. American people—"but that's another story," as Private Mulvany would say.

—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Blood diseases are terrible on account of their loathsome nature, and the fact that they wreek the constitution so completely unless the proper antidete is applied. B. B. B. (Botanic Blood Balm) is composed of the true antidote for blood poison. Its use never fails to give actisfaction.