FIGURES
Don't Lie. Not in The Citizen's advertising columns. Study 'em.

Asheville Daily Citizen.

RUN OVER
The Citizen's advertising columns when you start out to do your Christmas shopping.

VOLUME—XIII. NO. 194. ASHEVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 23, 1897. PRICE 3 CENTS

SECURE
A two days' supply of
GROCERIES
Early this week and avoid the rush later.
FOR
Our store will be closed
CHRISTMAS
A more dainty, delicious, and healthful assortment for Christmas trade can not be found than we have for our patrons this year.
Powell & Snider.
Arch Front.

Bon Marche.
You can buy Handkerchiefs at 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 10c., to very finest embroidery and plain hemstitched Silk Handkerchiefs for 25c. up.
See the beautiful Necktie Cases, Handkerchief cases and Glove cases. See the Cushions, hand-painted, Satin covered and Cambric covered.
New lot of those pretty Medallion Pictures at 25c., 50c. and 75c. just in.
New Stamped Linens and Embroidery Silks. New Kid Gloves.
The Place for Xmas Presents is
Bon Marche,
15 South Main St.

....Big Reduction in Guns
AT ASHEVILLE
HARDWARE COMPANY.
BRECH LOADING GUNS.
2 Russells Arms Co Top action 12 gage have been selling $15.00 reduced to $12.50.
2 Toxton's Top action 12 gage have been selling at $16.00 reduced to $14.00.
1 Rodgers Top action 12 gage have been selling $18.00 reduced $15.00.
1 Richard's side action 12 gage have been selling $18.00 reduced $14.00.
1 Standard Top action 12 gage have been selling $25.00 reduced $20.00.
1 Robertson Top action 16 gage have been selling $25.00 reduced $20.00.
2 Toxton Top action 12 gage have been selling $25.00 reduced $20.00.
1 Russell's Top action 12 gage have been selling $25.00 reduced $22.50.
2 Progress Hammerless 12 gage have been selling $30.00 reduced $25.00.
MUZZLE LOADING GUNS.
2 Muzzle Loading Guns have been selling $12.00 reduced $10.00.
3 Muzzle Loading Guns have been selling $10.00 reduced $7.50.
3 Muzzel Loading Guns have been selling $9.00 reduced $7.00.
2 Muzzle Loading Guns have been selling $7.50 reduced $6.00.

...Popular Books...
Quo Vadis ..... .90
Quo Vadis—Illustrated 1.13
The Beth Book, Sarah Grand 1.35
Social Life in Old Virginia, Page.. 1.35
The Sign of the Cross, Barrett... 1.35
In Buncombe County, Pool..... 1.13
Over the Andes 1.35
The Land of the Kankaroo, Knox.. 1.35
Bonnie Prince Charlie, Henty 1.35
Morgan's Book Store
3 WEST COURT SQUARE.

HOLIDAYPRESENTS
Useful, Moderate Priced.
J. Spangenberg,
4 North Court Square.

A Seasonable Suggestion....
Bring your laundry here. Don't try to have the thousand and one things that get soiled at Christmas time done up in the house—its inconvenient and unsatisfactory. Our work is the best in town. Everything comes back to you looking like new. We handle everything with the utmost care, and our charges are very reasonable.
Asheville Steam Laundry,
43 W. College St.

The Passing of Time
Will soon leave the holidays of '97 a memory. Leaves us with some holiday goods, too.
In order to give customers a great variety of articles to select from we gather a large stock of Jewelry, Watches, Diamonds, Silverware, etc., and expect to sell what remains at a very reasonable price. The opportunity to secure splendid bargains in goods which are but lately received from the makers does not often present itself. Don't let it slip past. Won't come again for some time.
B. H. COSBY,
The Reliable Jeweler, 27 Patton Ave.

Our Christmas Trade Never Was Better.....
The reason is we have a finer stock of Christmas goods than we ever had. Anything you want for Christmas you will find in our store.
Our store will be closed from 12 until 2 o'clock Saturday.
G. A. GREER.

FOR XMAS:
Heinz India Relish,
Beef Steak Catsup,
Layer Raisins,
English Walnuts,
Mixed Nuts,
Queen Olives.
COWAN & STRADLEY
16 N. Court Place,
Phone 47.

A Handsome Gift

Boulevard Side Bar Wagon,
WITH VICTOR GEAR.
The latest design in traps. Light, compact and stylish.
For sale at.
T. S. Morrison's Carriage Warehouse

STATE MONEY AS A BRACER

Treasurer Worth and the Morganton Bank.

DOUGLAS HAS HOPES

UNIVERSITY LOSES ON YADKIN BOND DECISION.

Public Charities of the State—The Pop. Rep. Conference—Mrs. James to Get $15,000—Baptist Storey.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 23.—Dr. Flow of the Board of Agriculture says that the board will meet as soon as the United States Supreme court decides the tonnage tax case. Of course if the decision is adverse arrangements will have to be made for sustaining the department. Only a very few fertilizer companies are pressing this suit against the State.

The penitentiary board is to meet in regular session January 17. The executive committee will meet on the 31st instant to arrange for the swap of Smith for Mewboorne.

There is no more devoted adherent of Governor Russell than George Z. French of Wilmington, and his statement that Senator Pritchard has, in the matter of the Wilmington postmastership, slapped the Governor in the face must be true.

John R. Smith was told of Aurelia Hampton's denial of his statement that she had written here, saying that she had sworn falsely about Dr. Kirby Smith's relations with her. He says that her statements are untrue as to his having made any attempt to induce her to testify favorably for Kirby Smith.

An insurance agent at Charlotte writes the Secretary of State that he knows of some insurance companies which are doing business in this State without license. He declines to give any further information, for fear it might injure his business. The secretary of State writes him a very caustic letter, telling him his duty as a citizen is to aid in preventing any violation of the law.

It is stated that State Treasurer Worth knew before the smash that the Piedmont bank at Morganton was shaky and that he let it have some money as a bracer.

Father Worth says in regard to his decision, that tobacco warehousemen are commission merchants, that he made practically the same ruling in 1895, after getting the opinion of the attorney general thereon.

Dr. Cy. Thompson, secretary of State, resigns as superintendent of the Sunday school of Central M. E. church here.

Judge Robert M. Douglas confidently counts on succeeding Judge Dick on the western district bench.

The wife of John P. Stedman, a well known druggist, died Tuesday at Oxford. She was a daughter of the late Rev. Dr. John H. Cordon.

It is asserted that the Supreme court's decision against the validity of the Yadkin railway $100,000 bonds issued by the county of Stanly, taps the University to the tune of $6,000, and a Richmond bank for $20,000. New York people hold most of the bonds. The moral of it all is, "Watch a North Carolina legislature."

The Baptist State Sunday school book store here is to be made a general one and is to keep school books.

The State board of public charities adjourned yesterday. It made an inspection of the insane asylum here, particularly the new building. There are at the three asylums the following inmates: Raleigh, 372, Morganton 714, Goldsboro 430. It is a question as to whether there are more white insane in the eastern or in the western division. It is interesting to know that in 1855 there were registered 500 insane in the State. Dr. Kirby of the asylum here estimates that there are now 2000. More accommodations are needed at Goldsboro and 100 acres more of farm, while here 172 acres more are needed. More room is needed at the institution for the blind here. Treasurer Worth has persistently refused to pay the $57,000 specially appropriated. At the deaf mute school at Morganton there are 249 pupils. In the State are 400 deaf mutes. At the Oxford asylum five new cottages costing $21,000, have been completed and occupied. At the negro orphanage there the number of pupils is 106.

State Librarian Cobb, minority Populist, says he knew there was going to be a conference of Populists and Republicans at Washington. Otho Wilson has changed front since last January and is now an ardent minority Populist.

It is more or less gently hinted that when the S. A. L. gets the C. F. & Y. V. R. R. it will be in better shape than ever before for a rate war.

The Supreme court decision in the damage suit for the killing of Engineer James at Old Fort, that the Western North Carolina railway is yet a corporate entity and is responsible is much discussed. Some agreed as to that construction, but others laughed at it, the more particularly as the State with a big flourish sold the road to the Richmond & Danville, got cash for it and was literally tickled to death at the bargain. It was the legislature, too, which made the sale. Nothing was then said in regard to any requirements to make the purchase valid.

GRAND LODGE GUESTS.

Entertained by Local Masons at Battery Park Hotel.

A pleasantly informal feature attending the presence in the city of the officers of the Masonic Grand Lodge of North Carolina occurred at Battery Park hotel last evening, where the members of the subordinate lodges of Asheville and Biltmore welcomed their brethren of higher station to the enjoyment of an oyster supper, and the opportunity of an hour of after-dinner courtesies.

Those present were: W. E. Moore, Dr. H. I. Clark, Frank D. Winston, F. H. Busbee, W. W. Wilison, J. F. Tilson, J. L. Currin, Mr. Esterly, T. F. Davidson, H. G. Ewart, G. Wilcox, C. A. Clark, B. A. Powers, W. J. Gudger, C. F. Toms, Fred Moore, A. L. Parker, W. A. James, jr., Dr. John Hey Williams, M. W. Robertson, Rev. A. H. Stubbs, J. T. Bynum, C. H. Miller, J. H. Drakeford, J. A. Nichols, A. J. Wills, J. H. Woody, A. H. Cobb, J. G. Colvin, W. F. Randolph, R. J. Sherrill, H. C. Allen, Geo. Donnan.

The Masonic lodges of the State represented at the ceremonies yesterday were from Windsor, Raleigh (2), Henderson, Webster, Marshall, Waynesville, Democrat, Weaverville, Asheville (2), Biltmore, Canton, Hendersonville, Ramseur, Sonoma, Grapevine, Burnsville, Bald Creek, Paint Fork, Hamilton and Carbonton.

Little to Fear.

To The Citizen an Asheville physician expresses the opinion that this city has little to fear regarding the probability of smallpox being brought here from the South. He is reliably informed that Atlanta is well quarantined, that the fatalities are comparatively few, and that the disease is not spreading rapidly.

NOW FOR AN AUDITORIUM

THE PROSPECT SEEMS BRIGHTER THAN EVER.

A Proposition Will Be Made to the City to Buy Nellie Park and This Will Be Supplemented by Liberal Subscriptions by Citizens.

The Citizen has it upon good authority that a proposition will soon be made to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen by which they will have an opportunity of acquiring at a moderate cost the Nellie Park land on Patton avenue to be used for a park and Auditorium building.

The proposition has not yet assumed definite shape, but the plan as outlined is to offer the property at such a price and upon such terms that will make the purchase on the part of the city desirable. This proposition or plan has been brought about by the recent letter of President Geo. T. Winston of the University of Texas to The Citizen, asking the citizens of Asheville to take some steps towards securing the location of a Southern Teachers' Assembly here, this being by far the most desirable place. Besides, the great need of an auditorium and a public park where the citizens and visitors can meet together has been fully realized by Asheville people for several years, and although the matter has been repeatedly agitated nothing has come of it.

Several prominent men of means have signified a willingness to make liberal subscriptions to the enterprise if the city authorities will show a desire to put it through. Capt. J. E. Ray, the owner of the land, will submit a proposition in a short time, and it is the intention, as stated, of some of Asheville's citizens to supplement his offer by a liberal subscription and a plan by which the city may acquire the property and build an auditorium without an immediate outlay of much money.

If carried out this will bring to Asheville within the next two years visitors enough to almost pay for the whole outlay on Asheville's part. The city has already missed several large conventions for want of an auditorium, and a public park is almost a necessity. This is the only centrally located land to be had and unless prompt action is taken it will be too late.

DAY OF THE SHOPPER.

Cool Weather Brings Out All the Searchers for Presents.

The thermometric change yesterday, which drove away the rain and led the mercury to fall off the shelf, had the effect of bringing Asheville people out and giving the streets the old time ante-holiday air. To be sure, there was some mud, but a small thing like that was not to be considered when the question of buying the best fellow's or the relative's present hung in the balance. The movement of the Christmas shoppers was noticeable everywhere, but particularly on Patton avenue, which always serves the double purpose of a dress parade ground and a buying thoroughfare.

The streets were full of wagons, drays and carriages, while the sidewalks were crowded by the possessors of bright faces who (the possessors, not the faces) tripped along and stopped here to look at a pretty window and there to make a purchase. And the windows! It seems that the artist has done his best this year in the dressing of the show windows, for there has never been a prettier or a more striking array of window pictures than the shoppers of Asheville have to tempt them to come in and buy.

There is a rushing business this Christmas in holly and the usual "green goods." One enterprising tradesman caught the tide at its flood and started a holly counter on the avenue. Yesterday the business had so enlarged that half a store was filled with the evergreens, while salesmen were kept busy swapping the holly and mistletoe for bits of coin of the realm.

The coming out of the shoppers army had its effect on the street cars, where an increase of traffic was noted.

The Christmas scene in Central market is a dream in evergreen. The stallkeepers have vied in festooning their places of business in the prevailing fashion, and the result is a picture one cannot forget if he would. It is another evidence of the prettiest market in the South.

A FINE YEAR.

A Buncombe Boy's Profit in Idaho is $4000.

M. F. Hampton of this city has received a letter from his son F. B. Hampton which gives a gratifying account of the success of a Buncombe boy in the far west. The junior Mr. Hampton lives near Genesee, Idaho, which has been his home for 10 years. During the year just past he cultivated 320 acres of land in wheat, oats and barley. When he wrote he had just completed harvesting his crop. He raised 12,000 bushels of wheat, 1710 bushels of oats and 1396 bushels of barley. From many of the acres in wheat the production averaged 52 bushels per acre. That country, he writes, is a fine one and he is very much pleased with this year's work, having cleared $4000. Besides growing the cereals Mr. Hampton raises his own stock and all the meat he can use. He left Buncombe without a dollar in his pocket.

ANOTHER SPECIAL.

Offered by a Virginian for the Poultry Show.

The following letter offering special premiums at the Poultry show came to The Citizen from John C. Myers of Leesburgh, Va., under date December 20:

"I desire to say that I will give one pair of rose comb Brown Leghorns for the exhibition of the best pair of rose comb White Leghorns from South Carolina at the Asheville poultry show."

Secretary W. F. Randolph will have tickets ready at The Citizen office Friday morning, for distribution to the boys and girls who wish to sell the admissions and compete for the prizes offered to those who dispose of the greatest number.

Local fanciers are reminded that entries of poultry and pet stock will close December 31.

BOARD OF TRADE.

Meeting of Business Men to Be Held in a Few Days.

A call for a meeting will be made some time next week by the business men of Asheville for the purpose of organizing a Board of Trade.

The people of Asheville are realizing that they must get together in an organization of this character, by which the handicap of an every-man-for-himself policy is to be avoided. The business men of the city can do nothing better as a starter for the new year than the formation of an organization that will be one of the most important factors in a town holding a progressive reputation.

Hendersonville Accident.

Fred Shuford, aged about 20 years, a son of D. M. Shuford of Grange, sustained severe injuries at Hendersonville yesterday, Editor Miner of the Brevard News tells The Citizen. The young man was sitting in his buggy on the street when a team of runaways collided with his vehicle, throwing him to the ground. His injuries are very painful, but no bones were broken, and he will recover. The young man is a cousin of Judge Geo. A. Shuford and W. E. Shuford, esq., of Asheville. The carriage was wrecked.

UNDER ARREST FOR FORGERY.

W. H. Kent Accused of Stealing $40,000.

PROMINENT CHURCH MAN

AS A LAWYER HE ROBBED HIS CLIENTS.

Falsely Certified to a Mortgage Satisfaction—Can't Get an Accounting of a $75,000 Estate.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—William H. Kent, a well known lawyer of Brooklyn, a prominent member of Plymouth church, in the Sunday school of which he is a teacher, and organizer of the Penny savings bank connected with the Bethel Mission Sunday school, a branch of Plymouth, is in jail in Brooklyn, arrested on a warrant charging him with forgery.

Kent is accused by Mrs. Mary H. McCord of Brooklyn of falsely certifying and acknowledging satisfaction of a mortgage. Mrs. McCord, who is a wealthy woman, declared that her name, which appeared on the satisfaction of the mortgage, was not put there by her, nor with her consent. She further charges Kent with falsely certifying and acknowledging satisfaction of the mortgage, knowing that her signature was not genuine.

It is alleged by Mrs. McCord that Kent betrayed the trust reposed in him, by herself, and has not only appropriated the $1100 charged in the warrant, but has allowed the taxes on her property to accumulate, and used money belonging to Mrs. McCord's niece and her servant, an elderly frugal woman who had been advised that Kent could be trusted.

Assistant District Attorney Caldwell stated that Kent had taken no less than $40,000 from his clients.

Kent is also involved in a difficulty over the estate of Wm. Anderson, who was a member of Plymouth church. He left an estate valued at about $75,000 and in his will left Kent $5000 and made him his sole executor. The heirs at law endeavored to get an accounting from Kent, and, failing, they began civil action in the Supreme court. Former Judge Nathaniel H. Clement was appointed referee by Judge Gaynor, and the case is still pending. The referee's investigations resulted in finding Kent's affairs in a confused condition.

AN UNPOETIC SOUL.

The Fate of the Cold Blooded Hoss Editor.

"Ah," remarked the market editor as he meandered into the office and placed on his desk a half-bushel of turnips; "ah, this glorious, magnificent weather! The happy, gladsome yuletide season!"

"Keeping the gladsome mule tied is a precaution that should be taken in every season," came from the depths of the hoss editor's chair.

The unpoetic and unsympathetic interruption went unnoticed by the market editor. "How inspiring the sight," he declared, "of the evergreens, the holly and the mistletoe——"

"And many a mistletoe the mark if her lover be where he can catch her in the act," said the hoss editor as he wrote "30" after an article on "How a Mule Should be Shoed," in which he gave the expert opinion that the patient yet deceptive little animal should be shooed at a distance of about 40 feet.

This brought the market editor round with a suddenness that made his bundle turnip its hands and send forth a peel of anguish. "Have you no place in your makeup for admiration of the holly and its berry?" he asked.

"No," grumbled the hoss editor as he kicked off his right slipper and threw his foot on the desk, "I have not; I can holly berry mention of the things."

This was too much. The Cupid and Psyche calendars dropped from their fastenings, the shooting stick in the Mergenthaler room went off with a bang, and the exchange editor rushed in and smothered the offender in a bunch of editorials on "The Dying Year."

NOT IN HER STOCKING.

But in Her Mouth a Woman Hid a $10 William.

Late yesterday afternoon a small boy found on Roberts street a purse containing $20. The finder held the purse and cried out what he had found. A colored woman, Eliza Rankin, who lived near, overheard all that was said. Immediately visions of beautiful Christmas trees floated before Eliza's imagination, and she claimed the purse.

Later the finder of the purse related the incident to Patrolman Jordan. The officer instituted search for the woman and when found she had $9.50. At first blush it seemed that no more funds would be found. But the wary officer, noticing that Eliza's communications were suspiciously restricted to "yea" and "nay," procured a key and pried open Eliza's jaws. In doing so the officer struck a Klondike, for the mouth contained a $10 bill.

Last night Capt. Fitzpatrick and Patrolman White searched the woman's house and found in the fireplace the lost purse, which belonged to Will Pierce, colored.

CITY SCHOOLS.

Exercises Incident to Closing for Holiday Recess.

Asheville's city schools closed today for the holiday recess, and teachers and pupils will enjoy a rest until Monday, January 3. A pretty program was rendered by Miss Grace Jones' fifth grade at Orange school. The numbers included songs and recitations, and the entertainment was highly successful.

At the Bailey school appropriate exercises were held in each room. At the close, a reception to the teachers of the building was given by the principal, Mrs. Frances Featherston. A picture of Longfellow, the poet of whom they had been studying, was given by Mrs. Featherston to each of her pupils. At the teachers' reception there were present Mrs. Chas. K. Evans, Miss Susan Hatch, Miss Sudie Israel and Miss Evans of Chattanooga.

RELIEVED BY DEATH.

Alexander Breeding, Who Became Insane, Dies This Morning.

Alex. Breeding, who was committed to jail last Saturday night, being regarded as violently insane, died at an early hour this morning. His wife and several children survive, residing on West Haywood street.

The funeral arrangements are in the hands of Asheville council No. 6, Jr. O. U. A. M., of which the deceased was a member.

The funeral services will be conducted at the late residence tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock, and will be attended by members of the Junior Order and the Masonic fraternity. The interment will be at Riverside.

Hard on the Shoal.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The British steamer Croma, from New York, for Leith, remains fast on Inchkeith island, in the Firth of Forth, and is seriously damaged. About 500 tons of her cargo have been discharged.

WIFE MURDERER HANGED

R. S RYAN WAS COOL TO THE LAST.

He Gave the Word to the Sheriff to Pull the Bolt, and Died in 12 Minutes After the Trap Fell.

GREENSBORO, N. C., Dec. 23.—[Special.]—Robert S. Ryan was hanged at 11:55 this morning in the jail here in the presence of 80 people.

He kept his nerve to the last. He said to the sheriff, who was binding him:

"Don't get nervous, Joe." The sheriff replied: "I wont."

Ryan stepped on the trap and said he would give the word. The sheriff asked: "Are you ready?"

Ryan answered in a firm voice: "Let her go."

The trap fell five and a half feet, dislocating Ryan's neck. Drs. Turner and Ledbetter pronounced life extinct in 12 minutes.

TELEGRAM.

AT DUN CRAGGAN.

Judge Ewart Will Hang His Stocking in the Old Way.

When the Circuit court closes tomorrow afternoon Judge Ewart will leave for Hendersonville to celebrate the Christmas festivities with his family at Dun Craggan. He will cast aside all thought of civil jurisdiction, imprisonment for non-payment of taxes and the railroad pass evil for the nonce, and be a boy again. There will be no Christmas tree at Dun Craggan, the Judge holding to the custom of hanging up his stocking, which was his chief delight before he reached man's estate.

There has been considerable talk lately connecting Judge Ewart's name with the succession to Judge Dick's place when the latter retires. Judge Ewart's friends, however, believe that what he would prefer is a place on the bench of the Supreme court of the District of Columbia, which has a $5000 salary attached. If there should be a vacancy there, and it is reported that Justice McComas may be chosen Senator from Maryland, Judge Ewart would be an applicant provided President McKinley should not decide to make the appointment from the District. There is a precedent for his going outside. Associate Justice McComas having been appointed from a territory outside the District. Judge Ewart has always been a warm McKinley man, and his friends think the President would remember this in case of a vacancy.

WEDDED AT NOON.

Marriage of Oliver D. Revell and Mrs. C. E. Gray.

The marriage at noon today of Mrs. C. E. Gray to Oliver D. Revell, was an ideal home affair. The ceremony was performed at Mrs. Gray's handsome Cumberland avenue home by Dr. R. F. Campbell, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, in the presence of only a few relatives and friends. An elaborate wedding breakfast followed.

Those at the table were Dr. and Mrs. John Hey Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Nellis and Gray Nellis, Mrs. J. M. Ray, Miss Willie Ray, Dr. R. F. Campbell, Jas. L. Wagner and W. A. Hildebrand.

Numerous presents and congratulatory messages were received.

Mr. and Mrs. Revell left on No. 12 this afternoon for a trip to Canada and the North.

PHILADELPHIA BANK FAILS.

An Allied Trust Company Also Goes Down With the Bank.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—The doors of the Chestnut street national bank closed this morning under direction of National Examiner Hardt. Its affairs are now in the hands of an examiner.

Wm. R. Singerly is president of the bank. The Chestnut Street Trust company, which operated in connection with the bank, has also suspended. Singerly is also president of the Trust company.

HE STOLE $20,000.

And the President Pardons Him in Time for Christmas Dinner.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 23.—Wm. E. Burr, jr., ex-cashier of the St. Louis National bank, now serving a sentence of five years in the Jefferson City State penitentiary for embezzlement of $20,000, has been pardoned by President McKinley. The pardon, it is said, was issued on a recommendation of Attorney General McKenna, who received petitions of clemency from National Republican Committeeman Koerinz, two Democratic Senators and other influential people of the State.

IN DEATH NOT SEPARATED.

Two Notable Instances of Husband and Wife Dying Together.

SOUTH BEND, Ind., Dec. 23.—Chas. R. and Mary Charlotte Chapman, husband and wife, died here yesterday, he first and she 55 minutes later. Apoplexy caused his death. Mrs. Chapman died from pneumonia, ignorant of the death of her husband a short time before.

An instance of a similar character was the almost instantaneous death of the paternal grand parents of President McKinley, many years ago, at their home a few miles east of this city. Mr. and Mrs. McKinley were buried side by side in a cemetery in this city.

RUSKIN'S FORMER WIFE.

He Gave Her to Millais and Now She is Dead.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Lady Millais, widow of Sir John Millais, late preident of the Royal Academy, is dead. Lady Millais was the divorced wife of John Ruskin, who voluntarily gave her up when it was evident she loved Millais. Ruskin stood by in the church when, in 1855, she was married to Millais.

Civil Service Law is Good Law.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—The Supreme court of Illinois, sitting at Springfield, has handed down a decision upholding the constitutionality of the civil service law of the State.

Killed By Fire Damp.

DORTMUND, Prussia, Dec. 22.—Sixteen persons were killed by an explosion of fire damp in Kaiserstuhl pit

FROM THE TELEGRAPH.

The State Department will investigate the killing of two American sailors in Japanese ports.

A company with $15,000,000 capital has been organized to furnish customers in New York with milk.

There are rumors of a combination between Joseph Leiter and Philip D. Armour in the great Chicago wheat deal.

The action of the French Chamber of Deputies in passing a bill increasing the duties on hogs and hog products is regarded as retaliation against the United States.

At a meeting of the McKinley cabinet the proposed revision of the civil service rules was discussed, and it was decided that members of the cabinet should submit in writing suggestions as to the modifications they may consider necessary.

DIPLOMATIC COMPLICATIONS

Three Nations Against British Pretensions.

RUSSIA, FRANCE, GERMANY

THE BALANCE OF POWER AND CHINA.

Japan May Take a Hand in the Partition of China, if That is Attempted By the Powers.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.—In a strongly anti-British article the Novosti says: "In consequence of the pretention of England to compensate herself for Russian occupation of Port Arthur by the acquisition of Port Hamilton Lazareff, and in view of the possibility of the disturbing action of Japan, Europe stands on the brink of grave diplomatic complications. Therefore it is well to recall that the reinforcement of the German squadron in the Pacific permits Russia, France and Germany to effectively prevent a disturbance of the balance of power."

WHY RUIZ WAS KILLED.

He Was a Spy According to Cuban Insurgents' Law.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—T. Estrada Palma of the Cuban junta made the following statement:

"The death of Col. Ruiz did not occur, as the Spanish have put it, while he was negotiating as peace messenger under a flag of truce. Again and again have the Cubans promulgated the law that all who shal come to them with a peace proposition not based on the independence of Cuba should be treated as spies and dealt with accordingly. Ruiz not only knew of the existence of this law, but, according to Spanish accounts, was personally warned as to his fate. Gen. Blanco and Secretary General Congosto, too, were well aware of the existence of the decree. Nevertheless these latter took advantage of the unfortunate quixotism of Ruiz, and sent him to the Cuban lines. The blood of Col. Ruiz is not on the hands of the Cubans, but upon the heads of Blanco and Congosto, who sent him to his fate.

"The conditions obtaining in Cuba and the character of the Spanish demand, that we take the necessary measures to speedily terminate the war by convincing the world that independence alone can satisfy us."

WEYLER HAS OPINIONS.

He Says Autonomy for Cuba Means the Loss of the Island.

MADRID, Dec. 23.—Gen. Weyler in an interview, just published, is quoted as declaring formally that there is no hope of success of autonomy, adding that no insurgent will submit except to the Marquis of Santa Lucia and another chief, and asserting that the insurrection will continue. Weyler adds that if the Spanish government persisted in autonomy Spain would lose Cuba in a few months. General Weyler said he is opposed to the dissolution of the chamber until the government has renounced the policy of giving the Cubans an autonomous form of government.

THE STORM IN TEXAS.

The Death Rate Among Cattle is Unprecedented.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 23.—The sleet storm that has prevailed for the past three days in Texas proved to be more disastrous in its effects on the stock interests of the middle west and northwest portions of that State than was expected. Reports from 200 miles west and north of Ft. Worth state that the death rate among the cattle will be unprecedented. In the extreme western part of the State the storm was not so hard.

GEN. BOOTH COMING.

Mrs. Ballington Booth Dying of Heart Trouble in New York City.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Gen. Wm. Booth, commander-in-chief of the Salvation army, is expected to arrive in New York January 8. His coming will be of especial importance at this time, owing to recent developments in the affairs of the volunteers of the Ballington Booth and Salvation army here.

Mrs. Ballington Booth is dying of aneurism of the heart at the Presbyterian hospital in this city.

Who Stole It?

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—The Southern Express company paid to the National Park bank of this city $10,000 in settlement of the loss of that amount of money by the robbery of the express company's safe at Columbia, S. C., last Monday. The National Park bank was the shipper of the stolen package, which was for a bank at Newberry, S. C.

Cotton.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Cotton futures opened steady; sales 10,500 bales. January, 5.78; February, 5.81; March, 5.86; April, 5.90; May, 5.95; June, 5.99; July, 6.04; August and September, 6.08; October, 6.11; November, 6.14.

At Cost..
FINE PERFUMES IN HANDSOME CUT GLASS BOTTLES WILL BE SOLD FOR THE NEXT THREE DAYS AT ABSOLUTE COST FOR
...SPOT CASH ONLY...
Don't let this chance to get a handsome present, at just what it cost us, pass by.
Drop in and see the goods and get the prices before you make your purchases. Everything else in holiday goods will be greatly reduced.
C. A. RAYSOR,
...The Prescription Druggist...
31 Patton Ave.

Christmas is close at hand finding us stocked with many articles suitable as gifts for those we care to remember—a handsome line of leather goods, card cases and pocket books—the finest English and French perfumery—the best assortment of toilet soaps—toothbrushes in endless variety—carriage sponges and sponges for the bath and toilet—Portuondo Cigars, 25 in a box, the finest smokers to be found anywhere—experts pronounce these cigars "par excellence," the best on the market and good enough for millionaire or peasant—people get surfeited with good things sometimes during the holidays, sometimes they get sick from overindulgence, in this case send your orders for medicines and prescriptions to Dr. T. C. Smith's Drugstore on Court Square where the greatest care is taken to furnish sick-folks with such medicines as will cure them—where more attention paid to the character of the goods sold, than to the cheapness of the prices.

WE WILL BOND YOU.
The United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company of Baltimore, Md.
Capital paid in cash..... $500,000.00
Stockholders' liability 500,000.00
Total resources ....4.....$1,000,000.00
As agent of the above company I can make the bond of city, state and county officials, railroad, express and other employes, postmasters, gaugers and internal revenue officials, in fact all sorts and sizes of bonds, for a small annual premium. I have power of attorney which enables me to execute all court bonds instantly.
These bonds will save the disagreeable necessity of asking your friends to make you a personal bond.
FRANK CARTER, Attorney and Agent,
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

The Club
53 SOUTH MAIN ST.,
The leading saloon in Asheville. I carry a complete line of the leading brands of Liquors, Wines, Ales and Cigars, imported and domestic. Agent for the Augusta Brewing Co. Beer and liquor sold by wholesale and retail. Free delivery. Phone 218. P. O. Box 337.
Pat McIntyre
Proprietor.

Aston Rawls & Co.
INSURANCE.
..REAL ESTATE AND LOANS..
Special attention given to the collection of rents and care of property

Biltmore Dairy
The herd, consisting of high bred Jerseys, is under the daily inspection of a qualified veterinarian, formerly inspector for the New Orleans board of health.
All the cows have been Tuberculin Tested and are in perfect health.
No expense or labor spared to secure cleanliness in all operations connected with the milk.
To do all the above costs money, and lots of it; but we have the satisfaction of knowing that we are supplying customers with pure milk.
Perhaps you can buy milk a little cheaper, but just think it over.