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The outlook is clear ahead and the prospects are bright in our line of business. We have been buying to advantage—yours as well as ours—and we are selling high quality goods at much below the average prices. In our immense stock we have the goods you want and at prices well within your reach.

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Forest City, N. C.

GREETINGS OF THE SEASON FROM CORN CRACKER

Christmas Holidays Bring Back
to Mr. White's Memory
The Purpose of Christmas

As this is the festive Christmas season, I am reminded that it is intended as a season of mirth and jollity. As all know, it is meant as celebration of birth of the divine Galilean who is recognized by Christendom as the Savior of mankind. Despite the ribald and sacrilegious scoffings of iconoclasts and agnostics,—as knowledge, both literary and scientific advances—the wisest and best of mankind believe in the advent of the Prince of Peace who was promoted from manger to throne. This is a consoling thought for the poor and lowly homes, while genius and philanthropy come from abodes of the poor and lowly. The haughty and purse-proud were seldom willing to accept the lowly Nazarene as the divine Savior. "Is not this the carpenter's son? and do we not have his mother and brethren with us?" Were he to re-visit the earth he would meet disrespect and ostracism. His teachings would be as unpopular as they were in Jerusalem. The political manipulators would call him a socialist, or an anarchist, and declare he was hurting the party.

He might not be crucified; but would be likely to receive a salute of ancient and malodorous eggs. However, people become more and more enlightened and in the same proportion Christianized. Many of us older people can remember when Yuletide season meant unrestrained drunkenness and other species of rowdyism. Men who practiced sobriety 364 days in the year must unbend Christmas day and load up to the back teeth with whiskey, brandy, or eggnog.

People of my age, can dimly remember when the universal challenge and salutation was, "Christmas gift." This had its origin in the wise men from the East giving presents of gold, myrrh and frankincense to the infant Jesus. When negroes were slaves, they looked forward with fond anticipation to Christmas. They would lay the master and "missis" of the "big house", and called out, "Christmas gift." If the master was indulgent and kind-hearted, he let them see him first,—and he gave them a "morning dram,"—and if they had a "backlog" that would last through the holidays, would let them enjoy that week. In order to pass what the negroes called the "paterolers" the master issued them passes. When my father was quite a young man he was appointed one of these patrol officers. My grandfather, among other slaves, owned one named Phyllis, a pronounced seeress and fortune teller. When she revealed the future of the white boys of the family, she forecast that Uncle Tom would be a rich merchant,—while Pa would be a poor old "pateroler." He said when the court appointed him he thought of Aunt Phyllis' prophecy. Some how or other, the colored people know when a white man is accustomed to negroes. At a hotel in St. Louis, nearly all the guests were northern men. They had white waiters, and a very polite negro waited on me. Those middle west people know a southerner by his vernacular. A northern man generally calls a negro mister,—while the southerner calls him "Sport," or "Snowball" if he is young, or "Uncle" if he is old.

This is something of a digression from the subject of Christmas; but yet it, somehow, is not altogether irrelevant; but rather amplified.

The spirit of charity gradually grows, and people have a more rational conception of the Christmas spirit. The Salvation Army works for the poor, and organized charity addresses itself more and more to the afflicted and unfortunate.

Every recurring festive season of peace on earth and good will to men, I like to read Christmas Carol by Dickens. Scrooge, had become selfish and sordid,—and the image of the pound sterling had been burnt into his very soul. He was very rich; but was paying his nephew, Bob Cratchitt, starvation wages. But night visions revealed his sordid nature to himself; and he raised Bob's wages provided handsomely for maimed Tiny Tim; and the parting message of poor, frail Tiny Tim, was, "May God bless us, every one." Such is my devout wish for every one in management of Courier and every reader.

M. L. WHITE,
CORN CRACKER.

The man who lives by his wits is not always a high liver.

MOSS COUNTY CHAIRMAN

Attorney T. J. Moss of this place has accepted the position as County Chairman of the Near East Relief drive for funds. Rutherford county is asked for \$800. The state is asked for \$100,000. Lieut. Governor J. Elmer Long of Durham is State Chairman.

There are five educational centers in the Near East at Athens, Greece, Beirut, Syria, Constantinople, and Sofia, Bulgaria. In these centers have been established schools. Here the organization proposes to take thousands of boys and girls during the next few years and give them an opportunity of developing themselves in mind as well as in body and spirit for a higher and more noble service to their country. One has but to realize that the man-power and the woman-power of the Christian nations in the Near East was almost completely depleted during the late war and in their children the world has its only hope in maintaining the Christian nations in the Near East and promoting Christianity and giving back something to the Near East in exchange for what the Near East has given us.

MRS. A. H. NANNEY PASSED DEC. 24

Beloved Union Mills Woman
Laid to Rest on Christmas
Day

Union Mills, Dec. 30.—Funeral services for Mrs. Asbury H. Nanney, aged sixty seven years, was held here at Round Hill Baptist church Sunday afternoon, December 25th, at 2:30, with her pastor, Rev. R. T. Baker, assisted by Revs. D. J. Hunt, E. B. Dillard, W. B. Craig, A. P. Sorrels and A. A. Walker in charge of the services. Interment followed in the Round Hill cemetery.

The many beautiful flowers were carried by the following grandchildren: Misses Grace Reid, Sue Koone, Ruth and Nell Miller, Margaret and Evelyn Jones, Annie Belle Koon and Mrs. Chester Hash. The active pallbearers were Messrs. R. C. Flack, M. G. Watson, Frank Simpson, Flay Hill, Claud Nanney and Bruce Elliott.

Before her marriage, Mrs. Nanney was Miss Maggie Alice Reid. She was born May 15, 1860 and died December 24, 1927. She joined Brittain Presbyterian church September 13, 1876. She was dismissed to the Union Mills Presbyterian church June 11, 1905 when this church was organized and had been a faithful member of that church since that time. She was married to Asbury H. Nanney on May 17, 1887. To this union were born six children. She leaves twenty-six grandchildren and one great grandchild. Six grandchildren and one great grandchild preceded her to the grave. She is also survived by four brothers and four sisters and her husband, Asbury H. Nanney.

The children are: Mrs. Mont Koone, Thermal City; Mrs. H. R. Nanney, Erwin, Tenn.; Mr. Fred Nanney, Mrs. Pearl Miller, and Mrs. Carl Jones, all of Union Mills and Mrs. Robt. Dowdle, of Appling, Ga.

The brothers of Mrs. Nanney are: Messrs. Geo. P. Reid, Forest City; C. C. Reid, Rutherfordton; Will K. Reid of Winter Haven, Fla., and J. Gordon Reid of Thermal City.

Sister surviving are: Mesdames W. C. Tate, Union Mills; J. W. Koone, Lincolnton; Sallie Young, Chase City, Va., and Annie White-side of Georgia.

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES WANTED

The Courier is in receipt of a letter from Mr. L. S. Presson, who is in charge of the Rutherford County Cottage, at Jackson Training school, Concord, N. C., which says in part: "We are also sadly in need of books, magazines, papers, and in fact any kind of reading material. This being a new cottage those things have not yet been furnished. Mr. and Mrs. Yoder of the Rutherfordton schools sent us a box of books and magazines last week, and the boys have enjoyed them very much."

Anybody who has good books and magazines to spare are asked to send them direct to the above address. They will be much appreciated.

Timber may be worked as a paying crop on the farm. Thin out the weak and undesirable trees so that the better trees may grow and be harvested for timber as they mature, is the method now being used by many progressive farmers.

TWO COLORED CHILDREN ARE BURNED TO DEATH

Children of George Rodgers,
Colored, Die When House
is Destroyed by Fire

Grim tragedy stalked in Grahamtown, a negro section of Forest City, last Thursday afternoon about 2:15 when the two children of George Rodgers were burned to death when their home was completely destroyed by fire.

The children's mother had gone to a spring some distance from the house after some water and before leaving had locked the doors of the house. The youngest child was asleep while the other was playing. Returning with the water and unlocking the door the mother found the house in flames. The fire was so fierce and burning so fast she could not get to the children. Their father, who owns a store next door to the house, was there when the fire was discovered. One colored man, whose name is not known tried to get to the children through a window, but the house was so far gone that his friends pulled him out.

The alarm was turned in and the fire department responded quickly but could do nothing to save the house as the water lines do not run that far. The chemicals on the fire truck were used to save the store.

After the house had burned down, the charred bodies of the children were recovered. The baby was found in the bed where it had been sleeping and it is thought that it suffocated before the fire reached it. The body of the other child was found in the dining room.

The origin of the fire is unknown.

THE NEW YEAR

N is for New Year. Let us all start it right.
E is for everybody to help in the fight.
W is for work that will strengthen our mind.
Y is for young people, to live upright and kind.
E is for everybody to do a good deed.
A is for the aged, who taught us to heed.
R is for rest, when our work is complete.

MRS. W. E. STACEY.

**Dr. D. M. Morrison, Optometrist
OF SHELBY**

Will be in Forest City every Thursday from 8 to 9 a. m. and 2 to 3 p. m. Office back of Dr. Duncan. Telephone 29.

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The Sport Cabriolet \$665.
The Imperial Landau \$715.
Light Delivery Truck \$375. (Chassis Only)
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