

Daily Concord Standard.

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CONCORD, N. C., MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1896.

WHOLE NO. 1.60

XMAS EXERCISES

"PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TOWARDS MEN."

The Day Celebrated in an Appropriate Manner at All the Churches—Generous Santa Claus Makes Glad the Hearts of the Little Ones.

Christmastide was made a season of pleasure by both old and young in Concord. The church entertainments were well attended and highly enjoyable. The splendid music, the bright eyes and happy hearts of the little ones made even the old forget dull care and join in the glad some song of "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."

TRINITY REFORM CHAPEL.

On Wednesday night the pastor and people of Trinity assembled in commemoration of the great Christmas event and engaged devoutly in suitable services, of which songs, recitations, etc., were rendered and the little band partook of the many gifts prepared.

FOREST HILL M. E. CHURCH.

Here on Thursday evening was rendered a service to touch the hearts of the Saviour-loving people. After devotional opening Rev. Arnold, the pastor, made a ten minutes address. Then songs, recitations and dialogues were rendered by those in whose interests so much beauty and loveliness is invented on these Christmas occasions.

The gifts were in boxes, very like bricks, and with them a chimney was built. Of course Santa Claus wants a chimney and here he came, and, bless his good old heart, he took down that chimney and found every brick to contain all sorts of good things for the dear little folks. Thus these little childish humors into which we glide at Christmas times win the young hearts to the love of Him who was born on this happy Christmas day.

CENTRAL M. E. CONGREGATION.

This congregation held its Christmas exercises in Armory Hall. It consisted of a cantata interspersed with recitations, songs and choruses rendered by the children and showed very skillful training that made the occasion one of exquisite delight. The children were treated to a sack of good things of which they never tire and all went home full of pleasant recollections of Christmas eve, Dec. 24, 1896.

AT ST. ANDREWS

the union Sunday school displayed a Christmas tree and held their services on Thursday evening. They were alternated with beautiful songs with merry Christmas bells and the jingle of the sleigh bells and appropriate Christmas recitations. Two Santa Clauses, all flaked with snow aged of course, from long years of Christmas visits to the children, and clever and kind as Santa always is to good little folks, put in their appearance with each a bag of "goodies" for each scholar, which gave fresh sparkle to the bright little eyes and joy to the little hearts. All seemed pleased and happy as the old enter into the joys of the young

and forget that there are any other than children.

GRACE E. L. CHURCH.

Services were held at Grace E. L. Church also on Thursday evening. Here were two trees of rare beauty and exquisite taste. The services consisted of the usual devotional feature with appropriate reading, concert responses, colloquial presentations of Christmas truths, suitable recitations and songs by the parochial school and most beautifully rendered music by the church choir. Gifts were then distributed to all the school as well as to all for whom such gifts were deposited. It was a successful effort and capable of bearing much fruit in honor of the subject of our Christmas joys.

ALL SAINTS.

At All Saints Episcopal church a Christmas tree and appropriate services were held at 3 o'clock Christmas day. This devout band of workers had a neat little tree and a gift for each little expectant. All was joyous contentedness and probably a much more elaborate preparation would not have contributed more to the pleasure of the children, for it was their treat and theirs only. All contributed to their happiness without sharing their gifts. The venerable Dr. Davis by interrogation elicited impromptu answers and imparted much appropriate information.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

The Baptists went early, remained late and had a good time at their church. Instead of the customary tree they had a Christmas ladder. Church and ladder were beautifully decorated and fairly groaned under the weight of the great heaps of good things that had been procured for the children. The exercises were typical of the time they were intended to celebrate, and the congregation turned out en masse to enjoy the occasion.

TRINITY REFORM CHURCH.

On Christmas evening the doors of Trinity Reform church were thrown open and the children entered to behold the beautiful Christmas tree and decorations that the good bigger people had been arranging and touching here and there with strokes of symmetry and business and for the delight of the little folks.

Devotional exercises were followed by an address by the pastor, Rev. B. F. Davis, when responsive reading and recitations singly, in groups, and concert interspersed with songs made the children feel that it was their time to make glad the city of our God, and the hearts of pastor and people responded with glad emotions of sympathy and delight. The usual gifts were then distributed and one more link was welded in the chain that binds the young hearts in sweet submission to the king of Glory.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

This was probably the most elaborate Christmas exercise of the season, being a union of Bays Chapel Sunday School and Forest Hill Chapel, with the First Presbyterian. The tree was large, elaborately trimmed and faultlessly beautiful. The songs, choruses, recitations, singly and by groups, were a special feature. The splendid choir with their pipe organ was aided by the Concord orchestra and the music was excellent. As they sang "Glory

to God in the highest," distant voices could be heard in response as if the hosts of angels were yet sounding back to the amazed shepherds the glad tidings of "Peace on earth good will toward men." It was a joyful occasion to all and the usual and indispensable gifts made a fitting climax to the appropriate exercises.

ST. JAMES CHURCH.

At 7:30 p. m., on Christmas evening just as the gifts at the Presbyterian church were being distributed, the opening anthem began the exercises at St. James Lutheran church. Beautiful music by the choir together with cornet and clarinet duet with organ accompaniment rendered the occasion delightful, but the great feature of the occasion was a cantata rendered by the children in their own winning, childlike way, appropriate because it was an occasion for childish happiness which can be more effectually entered into in juvenile glee. They found good old "Chris" with all his tender sympathy for little ones. In their happy songs distant musical sounds echoed their sweet little voices and swelled the joys shared by all who gazed with entranced delight at their innocent pleasures. At the close "good old Chris" led them to the basement where he gave each a sack of Christmas dainties. There was no Christmas tree, an arctic shrubbery scene was substituted.

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Take laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

AN AFFRAY.

White Man and Negro Women Engaged in a Row.

Near Buffalo mills Sunday afternoon about 4 o'clock, J. B. Roberts, a white man, and Hattie Parker and Annie Smith, colored, engaged in a row for all fight, in which Roberts seems to have come out second best. All of them had indulged pretty freely in wildcat whiskey, which had been procured from a blind tiger in the neighborhood of the depot. When the police arrived on the scene of battle, Roberts was found bleeding from a scalp wound inflicted from a knife, while the women had escaped, with a few slight scratches about the face and hands. The belligerents were arraigned before Squire Hill, who promptly bound them over in the sum of \$100 each to the next term of court. Failing to give bond, they were all sent to jail.

G. W. Drake, who was also arrested, was discharged, the evidence showing that he had taken no part in the row.

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