

DAILY STANDARD

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TELEPHONE NO. 71.

CONCORD, N. C., Dec. 31, 1900.

LOOKING BACKWARD.

We are now spending the last day of the last year of the greatest century in the world's history. The progress along almost all lines has been so great as to be confusing, bewildering.

There is scarcely a record of the little manufacture of fabrics in America a hundred years ago.

The card, the spinning wheel, and the home made loom were essentials in the thrifty household. Whitney's cotton gin was just being introduced before which the lint was picked off by the fingers and a shoe full was an after supper task.

There is a record of 70 spindles in America in 1790. In 1890 there were 14,188,109. They are little short of 20,000,000 now. Then the price of cotton yarn was \$1.03 to \$1.36 cents per pound. Now it is 13¢ to 18¢ cents per pound. Cloth has diminished in price accordingly, but wonderful to say the wages of operatives has more than doubled.

Look into our shoe stores and think about it that at the beginning of the century every pair of shoes was made by the local shoemaker. You made the order and waited for the shoemaker to get them done and a pair a day was good work. Today one man with a machine makes them by the hundred per day. The writer remembers when the fair sex wore bought shoes of grade altogether too common for now-a-days and they were so precious that the fair ladies would wrap them in their handkerchiefs and walk barefoot for miles to preaching, putting them on when they arrived in sight of the church.

Don't turn up your nose, these very girls became the mother's of as fine type of manhood and womanhood as the world can boast today.

If the well-to-do man wanted a house built the carpenter with his broad axe went to the woods and hewed out all the framing timber. No one expected to get into his new house within less than about two years. Now a much more pretentious house is finished up in less than two months.

Think of the schoolhouses then and now. The old time house was of logs with the chinks mor-

tered shut. Pegs stuck into the chinks or possibly bored into the log in leaning position held a wide plank which served as a desk for those to write on who were big enough. The seat was a slab with peg legs. When you were through writing a few lines in the fool's cap copy book you stuck your goose quill pen into the crack of the hewn log and turned your back against the writing board, faced the teacher and get your lesson. If a Rip Van Winkle having gone to sleep they were to wake up and limp into a well equipped school room today he would be bewildered and dazed indeed.

The sickle was barely disappearing and the harvester was delighted at the improvement of a reaping cradle. It was a frolic to swing it and have his best girl bind the wheat. Now the cradle is almost as antiquated as the sickle was then.

Think, too, the old scythe was made sharp by being hammered out on the steel-faced stake and the meadow had its champion grass cutter, the envy of all the reapers. The mowing machine of today has cured the backache of 100 years ago. The kids scattered the grass and the girls helped to rake up the hay.

The horse rake of today contrasts strongly with the wooden hand rake of that day.

Wheat was tramped out by horses moving in a circle or it was beaten out by flail. Now we have come to the gigantic machine drawn by 40 horses over the 1,000-acre fields of California, reaping, threshing, winnowing and sacking the golden grain.

Travel was by stage coach, slow and wearisome, and our legislators left their homes on horseback for the capital. Now a business man does a full day's work, takes a sleeper and gets up hundreds of miles away refreshed and ready as if he had been at home. Unless you had a death or a fire you did not think of writing to a friend some distance away.

The telegraph and telephone, too, seem to bring our friends to us and we speak to them hundreds of miles away as if we were sitting in the same log cabin.

The world is full of labor-saving machines and yet they seem to make more labor. One hundred years ago we were about 5,000,000 people, now it is estimated that there are nearly 7,000,000 hands employed in manufacturing alone and a great many of these are making labor-saving machines.

Think of a sailboat at the beginning of the nineteenth century taking two months to convey an important diplomatic message across the Atlantic, when it is flashed along at the bottom of the ocean now and arrives there before the swiftest sailor then could set his sails to start.

Probably in no line has there

been more progress made than that of printing and the general dissemination of knowledge. The type was all set by hand and printed on squeaky hand presses, making issues of great curiosity today. No visionary dreamer conceived of the linotype and the modern press that from an immense roll of paper runs off the news of the world on sheets printed on both sides, and cut, pasted and folded at a rate too fast for the eye to follow the process and the papers are run out by the ton.

But while we write and think of the crudeness of that day we are reminded that the generation of a century hence will look back at us as curiously as we do at the works of our grandfathers.

It seems eminently the proper thing to do tonight in keeping watch as the old year and century pass away and a new annual and century period is entered upon. It is needless to say that to all appearances the night will be just the same as other nights but man is a being of mind, of soul. He is enlarged by contemplation. He sees the future by seeing the past. He is made great by viewing greatness. He is made happy by meditations on things outside of, beyond and greater than himself. What can be more appropriate than spending the closing hours of the dying period in this exercise?

China takes her medicine. The Emperor has directed his ministers to sign the note of the powers. A plea will be entered to make as few army posts as possible and not to destroy the forts but disarm them. It seems there should be some headway made now toward letting China improve on the hard lesson she has learned.

We're sorry for Charlotte but Pearson's Magazine says the 20th century will make its start at Antipodes Islands.

Col. John S Cunningham did the graceful thing of presenting Gov-elect Aycock a gold headed cane for a Christmas present. In view of the fact that Mr. Cunningham was an aspirant to the place that Aycock got this is especially pleasing.

Very Acceptable.

United States Senator Francis E Warren, of Wyoming, received by mail Monday the most flattering Christmas gift bestowed upon any one in Washington. It was in the form of a letter from 53 of the 58 members of the Wyoming Legislature, assuring him that the signers would take great pleasure in re-electing him United States Senator in January.—Daily Record.

Editor Sees Wonders.

Editor W V Barry, of Lexington, Tenn., in exploring Mammoth Cave, contracted a severe case of piles. His quick cure through using Bucklen's Arnica Salve convinced him it is another world's wonder. Cures piles, injuries, inflammation and all bodily eruptions. Only 25c. at Fetzer's drug store.

THE RACKET STORE.

We are now showing the Largest Stock of Holiday Goods to be Found in Concord.

One entire floor containing 1,564 square feet for Dolls and Toys alone, while the larger part of our main floor is burdened with Chinaware, Fancy Boxes, Books, and a general line of goods suitable for Gifts.

GAMES!
1c. to \$3.25.

BOOKS
5c. to \$15 per set.

VASES
5c. to \$1.75 each.

DRUMS
25c up.

DOLL CARRIAGES
25c up.



ARCHARENA COMBINATION GAME BOARD

WE ARE HEADQUARTERS FOR ARCHARENA BOARDS AND HOLIDAY GOODS.

These Game Boards have Rules for 50 Games including CROKINOLE and FROM GAMES

BOYS' TOOL SETS
5c up.

Toys Without end!

Chinaware of all kinds.

DOLLS!
1c. to \$1.98.

X-MAS tree candles
15c per box

We haven't space or time to give you a full account of our stock. Come on; we have what you want and will save you money.

Respectfully,

D. J. Bostian.

JUST A REMINDER FOR THE AUTUMN AND WINTER SUIT

o—o

JACOB REED'S SONS OF PHILADELPHIA

INVITE YOU TO EXAMINE THEIR BEAUTIFUL NEW COLLECTION OF FABRICS NOW SHOWN BY

G. W. PATTERSON, CONCORD, N. C.

o—o

Suits from \$12.50 upwards.

Trousers from \$4.00 upwards.

Overcoats from \$16.00 upwards.

o—o

All carefully cut to measure, handsomely trimmed and tailored.

CONCORD MARKETS.

COTTON MARKET.

Corrected by Cannon & Fetzer Company.

Good middling.....	9 25
Middling.....	9 15
Low middling.....	9 05
Stains.....	8 85

PRODUCE MARKET.

Corrected by Ed. F. White.

Bacon.....	10
Sugar-cured hams.....	15
Bulk meat sides.....	10
Beeswax.....	20
Butter.....	15
Chickens.....	10 to 20
Corn.....	75
Eggs.....	15
Lard.....	10
Flour (N. C.).....	70 00
Meal.....	70
Oats.....	50
Tallow.....	7