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GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

A LITTLE ABOUT NUMEROUS THINGS

The Fifth of the World's News That Might Interest Our Readers. An Item Here and There.

United States Minister Beaupre left Bogota yesterday for Cartagena.

Barnard Shipp, of Louisville, a literary recluse, has bequeathed his library, valued at \$100,000, to the University of Virginia.

Word has been received at headquarters of the United Mine Workers that 1,000 miners in Preston county, West Virginia, have quit work on account of a reduction of 10 cents a ton in their scale.

Jackson, Miss., Dec. 22.—The state revenue agent has entered suits against a large number of packing and brewing companies who do business in this city, for back taxes on their refrigerator cars. The agents ask that these concerns be made to pay the taxes on their cars used in this state for the last ten years. The total amount of the assessments on which taxes are alleged to be due is two hundred and fifteen million dollars.

Tokio, Dec. 22.—It is asserted in official circles here that the Japanese reply to Russia rejects the fundamental points at issue, which are understood to include mutual guarantees for the preservation of Chinese and Korean sovereignty while securing their individual interests. The situation is graver than since the commencement of the negotiations, but is still susceptible to a pacific solution if Russia will quickly reconsider her reply.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—It was announced today at the forty-ninth convocation of the University of Chicago that donations amounting to \$1,850,000 had been received from John D. Rockefeller, founder of the university. Of this amount \$1,500,000 in real estate improved and unimproved in the immediate vicinity of the university, was formally transferred by Mr. Rockefeller. For current expenses of the university during the year beginning July 1, 1904, \$246,000 was given; \$53,600 was donated for the completion of the power plant and improvement of the grounds and \$50,000 is given by Mr. Rockefeller for the work of excavation and exploration in Oriental lands.

GLEE CLUB FETED.

The Trinity Boys Given a Royal Reception by Their Hospitable Friends Newbern Journal.

No efforts were spared to make the three days stay here of the Trinity Glee Club an occasion of pleasure which they would remember. The visit of the young men was anticipated for many days and it was very evident that the anticipations of both the local young people and the visitors were fully realized.

On Saturday they were the recipients of several very pleasant social events. Among them was a hay ride given in the afternoon by Mr. L. S. Grant which was greatly enjoyed by all who participated. In the evening the Epworth League tendered them a reception at the League parlors. It was a delightful affair and attended by a large number. After meeting with members, delightful refreshments consisting of ice cream, and cake were served.

Sunday the club occupied the choir loft at the Congregational Methodist church and furnished the music. Their rendering of the anthems and special music was a rare feature and very much enjoyed. For the morning offertory they sang the beautiful sacred song "Speed Away" with great tenderness and sweetness. An equally beautiful song was sung at the evening offering.

The club left yesterday morning for Kinston, where they gave an entertainment last night. They dispersed today to spend their holiday vacations at their homes.

Before leaving the city they showed their appreciation of the hospitality bestowed on them by the following resolutions:

Resolutions of Thanks by the Trinity Glee and Mandolin Clubs:

We, the members of the above clubs, wish publicly to thank the Epworth League and the good people of Newbern for the hospitable reception and entertainment they have given us during our stay with them. We feel convinced that Newbern is a friend to us and our college.

W. P. BUDD, Manager,
W. H. OVERTON, Director.

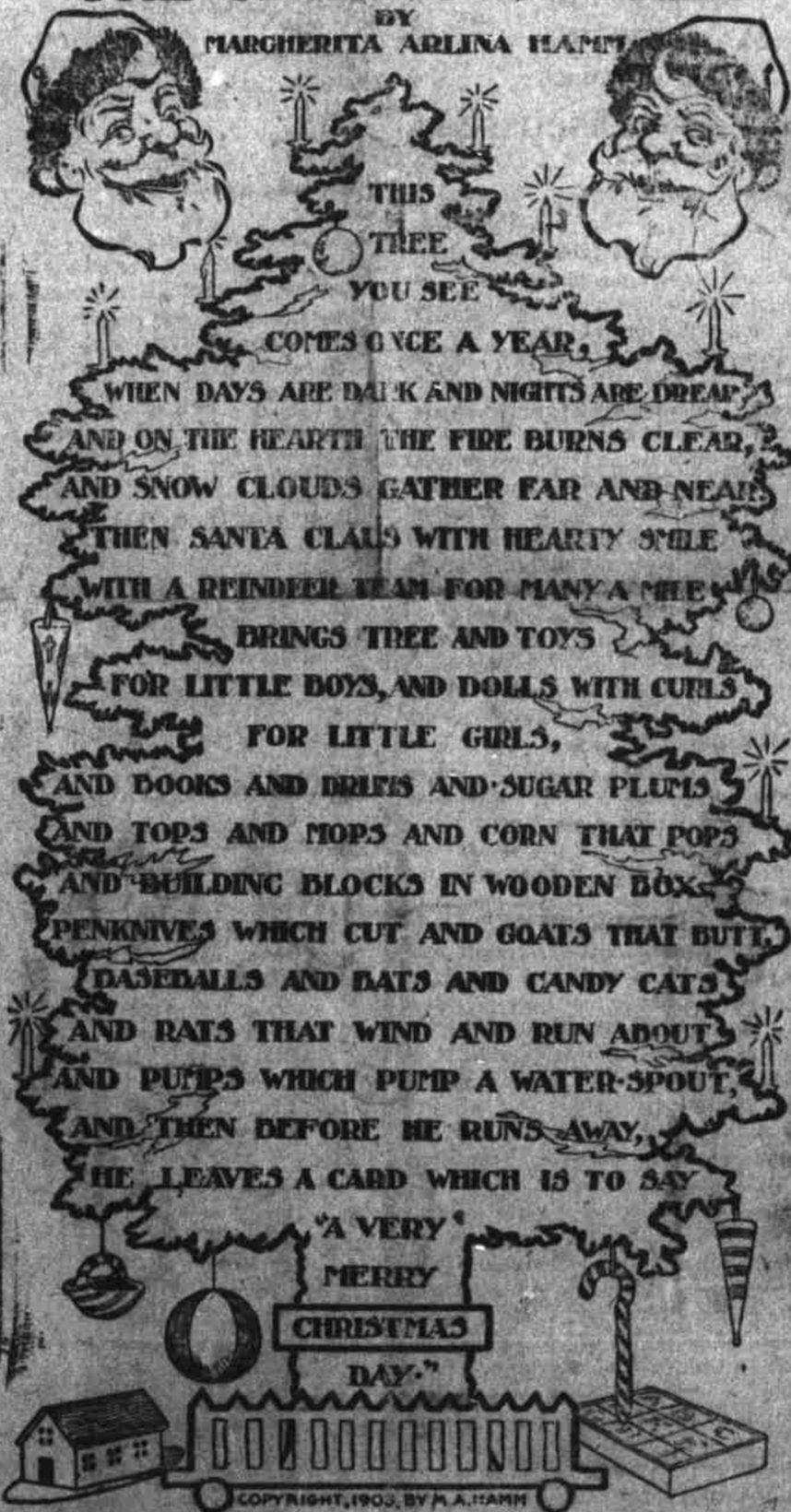
How The Mistletoe Comes to Be.

The story of how the mistletoe gets on the trees is a most interesting one. Covering the mistletoe twigs are pearly white berries. These come in the winter season, when food is comparatively scarce, and hence some of our birds eat them freely. Now when a robin eats a cherry he swallows simply the meat and flaps the stone away. The seed of the mistletoe the bird cannot flip. It is sticky and holds to his bill. His only resource is to wipe it off, and he does so, leaving it sticking to the branches of the tree on which he is sitting at the time. This seed sprouts after a time, and not finding earth—which indeed its ancestral habit has made it cease wanting—it sinks its roots into the bark of the tree and hunts there for the pipes that carry the sap. Now the sap in the bark of the tree, is far richer than that in the wood, and the mistletoe gets from its host the choicest of food. With a strange foresight it does not throw its leaves away, as do most parasites, but keeps them to use in winter, when the tree is leafless.

New York, Dec. 22.—The torpedo boat Winslow was in collision with the ferry boat America in the East river today. The hull of the ferry boat was struck in and the torpedo boat was also injured. The Winslow was carrying for Newport, and at 5:30 p. m. the two boats were in collision.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE

BY MARGHERITA ARLINA HAMM



Christmas in Bethlehem.

Bethlehem, the home of Christmas, is that happy Utopia of which every American child dreams—it has more than one Christmas. In fact, it has three big ones, and strangely enough, the one falling on Dec. 25th of our own calendar is not the greatest of the three. It is at least, the first. Twelve days after the Latin has burned his Christmas incense in the sacred shrine, the Greek church's patriarch, observing that it is Christmas-time by his slower calendar, catches up the gloria, and bows in the Grotto of the nativity for the devout in Greece, the Balkan States and all the Russias. After a period of another twelve days the great Armenian church of the east takes up the anthem of peace and good will, and its Patriarch visits the shrine.

All three of these big Christmas observances have some few things in common, at least one—the red-capped Mohammedan soldiery of the Sultan that stand with fixed bayonets as the background to brilliant pictures. In this manifestation of all Christian shrines, and especially on the natal day—according to the different calendars—of him who taught the brotherhood of man, the Latin, as he thinks the word of good will, must be proclaimed by the Greek and Armenian.

ria, must be protected from fervid Armenian and Latin; and the Armenian, as he takes up the glad refrain, must be protected from Greek and Latin. All must be protected from Copi and other Christian churchmen, who, in their turn, must also be protected from the zealots of the three big churches. This duty falls on the followers of Mohammed. The presence of the armed Turkish soldiers have prevented riots at the Christmas and Easter festivals in recent years. The last great clash, thirty years ago, resulted from a discussion over some curtains. The result of that bloodshed in the holy of holies, and the constant threatening attitude of the different protectors of the holy shrines, was that the Sultan stationed a garrison of troops at Bethlehem, and connected the town with Jerusalem by a telegraph wire. Now, at every hour of the day and night, two Mohammedan soldiers with fixed bayonets challenge all comers.

The Cotton Market.

December, 12.34; January, 12.29; March, 12.23; May, 12.15. Receipts on the local market 15 to 25 bales 2000 at 12 1/2 cents.

Winston board of aldermen have approved Corbett's offer of a \$12,000

A Narrow Escape.

Mr. W. H. Whitfield had a narrow escape from death or losing both legs at least, yesterday, and even now those who witnessed the accident are wondering how he escaped.

He was walking down the railroad track of a switch at Hines' mill and a freight was shifting on the yard and came backing towards him rapidly. Mr. Whitfield, was walking, from the train, all unconscious of its approach. The men at work who were looking at the spectacle thought Mr. Whitfield knew of the approaching train and expected to see him step to one side. Not so however, and when the train was right at him they all held for him to jump, and at the train crew to stop the train.

The noise attracted Mr. Whitfield just in the nick of time and he started to jump from the track when the car struck him in the back and knocked him clear of the track. He was not hurt much, but how he escaped is still a wonder to those who saw it.

Croom-Arnold.

Last evening at Dover, Mr. R. F. Croom, of this city, and Miss Maude, the beautiful daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Arnold, of Dover were married at the residence of the bride's parents, Rev. F. W. Dixon officiating. The bridal couple came to Kinston on the evening train and will make this city their home.

Mr. Croom is a deserving young man who holds a position at Hines Bros' mill and the bride is a popular young lady of Dover.

Several from this city attended the marriage.

Scott-Dawson.

Mr. J. H. Scott and Miss Mamie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Dawson, were married yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the home of the bride's parents, on east Caswell street. Dr. E. D. Harper, Sr., performed the ceremony in the presence of a few friends and relatives of the bridal couple.

Immediately after the ceremony the bride and groom went to the A. & N. C. depot and took the train for Newbern where they will spend the holidays.

Currin-Moore.

The following invitations have been received in this city:

Mr. and Mrs. James I. Moore request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter Sallie Taylor

to Mr. Samuel B. Currin Tuesday afternoon, January the Fifth nineteen hundred and four at two o'clock at home near Snow Hill, North Carolina.

Silver Wedding.

The following invitation has been received at this office:

1879 1904 Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Howard ask you to be present

at the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of their marriage on Thursday afternoon the seventh day of January from 4 to 7 o'clock at their residence Kinston, North Carolina

Express Messenger Hurt.

Greenville Reformer. Mr. B. L. Crocker, express messenger between Kinston and Weldon, was severely injured Tuesday while lifting a heavy trunk in his van. In consequence of the accident he is laid up. Mr. Crocker is in the van in

NORTH STATE NEWS

Clipped and Culled From Our North Carolina Exchanges.

ODD AND INTERESTING HAPPENINGS

Gossip Gathered from Murphy To Manteo of Importance to Our Tar Heel Readers.

Ex-Governor Russell's wife has been appointed postmaster at Wilmington and has accepted.

Walter Ham, of Durham, while under the influence of liquor Tuesday shot his brother, inflicting a painful wound.

Mr. Geo. W. Vanderbilt has bought this week 151 acres of land adjoining Biltmore estate, for which he paid \$1,000 per acre.

W. D. Southerland, 40 years old and a man of family, is in jail in Charlotte for sleeping with J. S. Jordan's wife, of Anderson, S. C.

The marital troubles of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Dudley, of this State, are to form the basis for a drama which is being prepared by a New-York actor and Mrs. Dudley is to take the leading feminine role.

Dispatches from Washington states that charges have been preferred against Judge Boyd, of the federal court and that impeachment proceedings may result. Judge Boyd says that it is a scheme of his enemies and amounts to nothing.

W. A. Gantier, the desperado who shot a man named Daughtry, in Sampson county, when the latter was helping to arrest him, last week, will be tried for murder, as Daughtry has since died. Gantier was convicted in the federal court and sentenced to the United States prison, in Atlanta, Ga., for robbing mail boxes, but will be tried for the more serious offence.

Goldboro Argus: Henry Pate, a negro living on the plantation of Capt. A. L. Sasser, has been arrested and placed in jail. He is charged with the killing of Bunn Capps, who was found on the roadside in that locality with his skull crushed about two weeks ago. The preliminary trial has not been held yet, but it is learned that there is considerable circumstantial evidence against Pate. He had in his possession some days ago a knife which belonged to Capps, and there are other circumstances which will probably clear up the mystery surrounding the death of Capps.

