

MARION PROGRESS

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE BEST INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE OF McDOWELL COUNTY.

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Death of the Old Year

FULL knee-deep lies the winter snow,
And the winter winds are wearily sighing.
Toll ye the church bells sad and slow,
And tread softly and speak low,
For the old year lies a-dying.

Old year, you must not die,
You came to us so readily,
You lived with us so steadily,
Old year, you shall not die.

He lieth still, he doth not move,
He will not see the dawn of day,
He hath no other life above,
He gave me a friend and a true, true love,
And the New Year will take 'em away.

Old year, you must not go,
So long as you have been with us,
Such joy as you have seen with us,
Old year, you shall not go.

He froth'd his bumpers to the brim,
A jollier year we shall not see,
But tho' his eyes are waxing dim,
And tho' his foes speak ill of him,
He was a friend to me.

Old year, you shall not die,
We did so laugh and cry with you,
I've half a mind to die with you,
Old year, if you must die.

He was full of joke and jest,
But all his merry quips are o'er,
To see him die, across the waste
His son and heir doth ride post-haste,
But he'll be dead before.

Every one for his own,
The night is starry and cold my friend,
And the New Year blithe and bold, my
friend,
Comes up to take his own.

How hard he breathes! Over the snow
I heard just now the crowing cock,
The shadows flicker to and fro,
The cricket chirps, the light burns low,
'Tis nearly twelve o'clock.

Shake hands, before you die,
Old year, we'll dearly rue for you,
What is it we can do for you?
Speak out before you die.

His face is growing sharp and thin,
Alack! our friend is gone,
Close up his eyes, tie up his chin,
Step from the corpse, and let him in,
That standeth there alone,
And waiteth at the door,
There's a new foot on the floor, my friend,
And a new face at the door, my friend,
A new face at the door.

—Tennyson.

A Prayer for the New Year

ETERNAL God, in whom is the hope of all our years, remember us in Thy mercy also in this new year of our Lord. Reveal Thy glory in the experience of its joys and sorrows. Forestall its tears with the abiding comfort of Thy presence. Make us strong rightly to measure all our gains and to endure with patience every loss Thy love allows. Show us Thy meaning in the gifts and opportunities of each new day. Assure us of Thy help in labor, Thy delight in our joys. Quicken our minds to clear vision and our hearts to cheerful content. Provide for our bodies such vigor as shall be needful for our allotted work. We leave to Thee the mystery of the year's events, assured that Thou wilt guide our way. Withhold from us all gifts which would prevent Thy purpose for our growth in wisdom and in service. Only deny us not Thyself—Thy Spirit to instruct our hearts, Thy work to share, Thy peace to still our restlessness, Thy presence to resolve our doubts. In the sitting of temptation grant that our faith fail not, and when our years are ended bring us to Thyself, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Origin of New Year Gifts

Like the customs of Christmas, which, in their origin, are a curious mixture of poetry and symbolism and of superstition, those that belong to the observance of New Year's day are also relics of ideas that date from early heathen ages. The French derive their term for New Year presents from the Latin word, *Strenia*, the name of a goddess whom the Romans venerated as the patroness of gifts. There was a grove in Rome dedicated to this goddess, where it was customary to get fresh twigs, to give as presents to friends and relatives on New Year's day. During the sway of the emperors, Roman subjects made New Year's gifts to their sovereign. Augustus received such quantities of these that he had gold and silver statues made of them. Tiberius did away with the usage, because he considered it too troublesome to express thanks for the gifts. Caligula, on the contrary, reintroduced the custom, and even made up for his predecessor's refusal to receive presents by requiring those that had been offered to him to be given to himself as arrears. The custom of making New Year's gifts, notwithstanding attempts to suppress it, was continued after Europe had become Christian. For a time present-making was transferred to Easter, but later it was again associated with the first day of January.

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

by LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for testimonials free.

F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Profit in Study of Names.
To study out names may often bring a good deal of not only amusement, but positive instruction and education. Try it on your friends, or perhaps, better, your enemies. For then you can prove for yourself the old proverb (hereby invented on the spot). Tell me your name and I can tell you what your ancestors were.

Happy New Year of Many Nations

NEW YEAR'S day has for generations been the occasion of revels. It has come down to us from the old German custom of dividing the year at the close of those months when it was no longer possible to keep cattle out doors. This was made quite a fete and in the sixth century was merged into the feast of St. Martin, November 11, on which day the opening of the New Year was celebrated. While in Germany Martinmas and the New Year were identical, with the introduction of the Roman calendar the celebration was gradually transferred to the first of January, and with it went many of the jolly Martinmas customs. Traces of these old New Year observances and superstitions can still be traced in the way the season is kept in different lands. Our decorations of greens, for instance, are a relic of the old Roman superstition of presenting branches of trees for good luck in the coming year. The giving of presents has also come to us from the Romans. They outdid even the generous Americans, for they used to ask for gifts, if not received, until one of the emperors forbade his subjects demanding gifts save on the New Year. One of the favorite New Year's gifts after pins were invented in England, in the sixteenth century, were the rough hand-made pieces of metal that took the place of bone and wood skewers. Later pin money was substituted. A gift that must never be omitted was an orange stuck with cloves to grace the wassail bowl. Apples, nuts and fat fowl were popular offerings of the season. Gloves and glove money is a very old New Year custom which is still kept up in the increasing use of gloves as holiday gifts. Even more curious are the old New Year customs. Many of these are still observed by old-fashioned people who cling to the old traditions. The old-fashioned Englishman will formally open the outer door of his house on New Year's eve just at the approach of midnight. This is to let out the old year and usher in the new. The Scotch make much of New Year. It is generally ushered in with a "hot pint," brewed at home and drunk by the family standing around the bowl just as midnight strikes. After hearty greetings to the New Year, the "hot pint," with bread, cheese and cakes, is taken to the houses of the neighbors. The first to enter another's home on the first of January bestows good luck on the family for the year. In many of the Scottish regiments even yet the ushering in of New Year is most picturesque. At five minutes before twelve the soldiers, headed by the oldest man in the regiment dressed as Father Time, march out of barracks headed by the band playing "Auld Lang Syne." Just at the stroke of twelve there comes a knock at the gate. "Who goes there?" calls the sentry. "The New Year," is the answer. "Advance, New Year," is called back. The gates are thrown open and the smallest drummer lad in the regiment, dressed in Highland costume, is carried in on the shoulders of the men, and marched around the barracks to the pipers' tunes. The rest of the night is spent in carousing.

Saved His Wife's Life.

"My wife would have been in her grave to-day," writes O. H. Brown, of Muscadine, Ala. "if it had not been for Dr. King's New Discovery. She was down in her bed, not able to get up without help. She had a severe bronchial trouble and a dreadful cough. I got her a bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery, and she soon began to mend, and was well in a short time." Infallible for coughs and colds, its most reliable remedy on earth for desperate lung trouble, hemorrhages, lagrippe, asthma, hay fever, croup and whooping cough. 50c. \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by J. W. Streetman.

Lessens Danger From Disease Germs

The use of mullin in dairy windows instead of glass is said to lessen the danger from disease germs.

Just a Little Too Much.
A business man called his stenographer and dictated as part of a sentence "quasi public institutions." It came to him in typewritten form "cross eyed public institutions." He has a new stenographer.

When you have a cold get a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It will soon fix you up all right and will ward off any tendency toward pneumonia. This remedy contains no opium or other narcotic and may be given as confidently to a baby as to an adult. Sold by all dealers.

Daily Thought.
But hope will make thee young, for Hope and Youth are children of one mother, even Love.—Shelley.

The quicker a cold is gotten rid of the less the danger from pneumonia and other serious diseases. Mr. B. W. L. Hall, of Waverly, Va., says: "I firmly believe Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to be absolutely the best preparation on the market for colds. I have recommended it to my friends and they all agree with me." For sale by all dealers.

Raisins as Staff of Life.
The life of Cuba is largely sustained by raising its people consuming the fruit more generally than any other of the Spanish-American colonies.

A High Grade Blood Purifier.

Go to J. W. Streetman's drug store and buy a bottle of B. B. B. (Botanic Blood Balm.) It will purify and enrich your blood and build up your weakened, broken-down system. B. B. B. is guaranteed to cure all blood diseases and skin humors, such as Rheumatism, Ulcers, Eating Sores, Syphilitic Blood Poison, Catarrh, Eczema, Itching Humors, Risings and Bumps, Bone Pains, Pimples, Old Sores, Scrofula or Kernels, Suppurating Sores, Boils, Carbuncles. B. B. B. cures all these blood troubles by killing the poison humor and expelling it from the system. B. B. B. is the only blood remedy that can do this—therefore it cures and heals all sores when all else fails. \$1 per large bottle, with directions for home cure. Sample free by writing Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga.

Clock Wound by Wind.
It is told of a clock in Brussels that it has never been wound by human hands. It is kept going by the wind.

NEEDFUL KNOWLEDGE

Marion People Should Learn to Detect the Approach of Kidney Disease.

The symptoms of kidney trouble are so unmistakable that they leave no ground for doubt. Sick kidneys excrete a thick, cloudy, offensive urine, full of sediment, irregular of passage or attended by a sensation of scalding. The back aches constantly, headaches and dizzy spells may occur and the victim is often weighed down by a feeling of languor and fatigue. Neglect these warnings and there is danger of Bright's disease or dropsy. Any one of these symptoms is warning enough to begin treating the kidneys at once. Delay often proves fatal.

You can use no better remedy than Doan's Kidney Pills. Here's Marion proof:

Mrs. J. C. Brown, Garden & Spring Sts., Marion, N. C., says: "I consider Doan's Kidney Pills worth their weight in gold and I do not know how I could have gotten along without them. I have kept this remedy in the house for the past five years, getting my supply at Streetman's Drug Store and its use has never failed to give me relief from backache and other kidney disorders." For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

Lightning Kills Few.

In 1906 lightning killed only 169 people in this whole country. One's chances of death by lightning are less than two in a million. The chance of death from liver, kidney or stomach trouble is vastly greater, but not if Electric Bitters be used, as Robert Madsen, of West Burlington, Ia., proved. Four doctors gave him up after eight months of suffering from virulent liver trouble and yellow jaundice. He was then completely cured by Electric Bitters. They're the best stomach, liver, nerve and kidney remedy and blood purifier on earth. Only 50c at Streetman's drug store.

Daily Thought.
Guard well thy thought; our thoughts are heard in heaven.—Young.

Every family has used of a good, reliable liniment. For sprains, bruises, soreness of the muscles and rheumatic pains there is none better than Chamberlain's. Sold by all dealers.

"I had been troubled with constipation for two years and tried all of the best physicians in Bristol, Tenn., and they could do nothing for me," writes Thomas E. Williams, Middlesboro, Ky. "Two packages of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets cured me." For sale by all dealers.

A Crime Self-Punished.
A thief entered a house in Riverside Drive and stole five volumes of poetry. There's a crime that carries its own punishment.—New York Herald.

Woman loves a clear, rosy complexion. Burdock Blood Bitters purifies the blood, clears the skin, restores ruddy, sound health.

For Private Telephone Service.
Many British business men are of the opinion that England would have a better telephone service if it were out of the government's hands.