

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS.

CULLED FROM THE VARIOUS PAPERS OF THE STATE.

Tar Heel Items for Tar Heel Readers—Some Happenings in Old North State.

Coroner W. A. Gresham states that there have been 34 homicides in Mecklenburg county during the past three years.

The 15,000 State pension warrants which aggregate \$400,000 have been sent out and veterans are receiving the money.

A large wildcat, an animal that is now nearly extinct in the middle section of North Carolina, was seen near Southern Pines one day last week.

Mr. W. Thomas Bost, the Salisbury newspaper correspondent, a versatile and entertaining writer, will on January 1 become associate editor of the Durham Herald.

Six Northern hunters have been required to give bond in the sum of \$100 each to appear in Guilford Superior Court and answer the charge of hunting without license.

While changing trains at Rocky Mount a few nights ago Louis Walker, 18 years old, a newsboy on the train, fell under the cars and both hands were cut off at the wrist. He was throwing snowballs and caught at the train to get on. Missing the train he fell with his hands on the rails.

Will Bennett, colored, was shot and instantly killed by Will Cherry, also colored, Saturday night on the public road near Weldon. The negro had a difficulty in town and it is supposed that Cherry went ahead and deliberately awaited his victim. Cherry escaped after firing the fatal shot.

In North Carolina during the past year there were held, according to the report of the Director Tait Butler, in charge of this work, 169 Farmers' Institutes in 93 counties. During the previous year there were 136 institutes in 91 counties. Six years ago there were 28 in 27 counties. The attendance this year has been a decided increase over the attendance in past years.

In an election in Louisburg some days ago on the exciting question of whether the town would permit the hogs to live and prosper on the streets the hogs carried the day, the battery of their friends being that the means of livelihood should not be taken away from widows and orphans. Over 200,000 pounds of pork are produced in Louisburg within the corporate limits annually.

George Brooks, a colored man in Winston on returning from his work Saturday evening went into his house and found his 16 year old daughter, whom he had left in charge of house, burned to death. It is supposed that the girl, who was subject to spasms, was sitting by fire when a spasm came on her and she fell into the fire burning her body, from her waist up, almost beyond recognition. Her nose was burned completely off.

The annual report of the Soldiers' Home shows 144 inmates being cared for as compared with 137 at the close of the previous fiscal year. During the past year 51 old soldiers were received; 44 died or discharged, the exact number of deaths being 32. It cost to provide for the old soldiers \$104 for each inmate. The average age of the veterans being cared for is 72 years. During the past year a dining room and kitchen and quarters for trained nurse have been added.

The sand hill country is "coming." Long regarded as the poorest section in the State if not the world, it is beginning to produce as much and sometimes more than other sections. Judge Avery once said that while God Almighty never did anything in vain his wisdom in manufacturing Moore county, in the sand hill, had never been made manifest. That was years ago. Now Moore is making \$100 clear per acre on dewberries say nothing of other crops. A man near Southern Pines made 65 bushels of corn to an acre on his sand hills.

When the dispensary was established in Raleigh it was supposed that it would help to lessen liquor consumption. Instead the consumption has increased and the sales by the dispensary are so large as to constitute Raleigh's shame. In 1904 the sales run up to \$178,424.48; in 1805 they were \$215,042.53; in 1906 they were \$258,736.54, and in nine months of present year the sales have aggregated \$207,154.29. The total sale of intoxicants by the Raleigh dispensary for three years and nine months has aggregated \$854,358.14.—News & Observer.

THE CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

"Glory to God in the Highest; Peace on Earth, Good will to Men."

At Christmas, play and make good cheer, for Christmas comes but once a year. The time for the holly and the mistletoe is almost here. The time for bright faces and generous impulses—for gladsome greetings—a time for noble resolves to be born, a time for old animosities to die.

A time when the benevolent side of one's nature should eclipse the sordid side. A time when the thoughts should be turned towards home; a time when the usurping chains of business should be ignored. The time when the child with its golden curls, the man with his silvered locks alike cry "Glory to God in the highest; peace on earth, good will to men." These words have been chanted by all Christian nations since the infant Jesus slept in the rude manger in Bethlehem. The organs in the grand cathedrals have pealed forth these words and the worshippers have been filled with adoration; those treading the flowerless paths of poverty echo the praises.

The poor mother in the hovel, as she bends over the smouldering embers upon the desolate hearth and weeps over the empty stockings of her neglected children—even she hears the strains in the distance and her plaintive voice, so full of want, joins in the chorus, "Glory to God in the Highest." Perhaps this mother is thinking of the Christmas days in her childhood when plenty crowned the board, and these memories may be feeding her hungry heart.

Theologians may cavil over the date and origin of this day, but we will hold fast to our Christmas. In no land is Christmas more heartily celebrated than in our own country. The spirit of good cheer, of good will and of gift-giving seems to fill the very air. And as the Christmas of 1907 is being ushered in by the merry pealing of the bells, may every being in general catch something of the heavenly enthusiasm of the music and may it bear this vibrant message to us all. As we are about ready to let go of the old year we realize that to most of us it has been a kind year. To a few the dark side has been turned; to others the sunny side. We must not forget that upon some of the homes of our loved ones since Christmas-side a shadow has fallen and the mantle of sorrow has wrapped the inmates in its sombre folds. Other homes are like the empty nest that hangs on the withered bough, desolate, because the life and song went out with the birds. New homes have been made, new ties formed and old ones severed.

But in our onward march it is not well to stop to measure the load each one carries. No life is either all sunshine or all gloom. If the new year brings prosperity let us rejoice; if adversity let us be brave. Let us be thankful, for everything reminds us that we should be, and share our blessings with others.

We won't have to look far to find want and suffering. The world is full of it and we will be happier ourselves by making others happy. So let's be thankful that our lines have fallen in pleasant places, that all is as well with us as it is, and use our utmost endeavors to make the new year a happy one. Let's turn over the sad page and look at the bright pictures that awaits us, and let us quickly penetrate any cloud that floats over our pathway, and view at length the beautiful silver lining beyond. We in the language of a writer in the Monroe Enquirer are holding on to our Christmas with one hand and reaching out to the New Year with the other.

A merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each and every one of our many readers.

Brother Varner's Afflictions.

We deeply regret to learn that Labor Commissioner H. B. Varner and popular editor of the Lexington Dispatch, has practically lost the sight of one eye as a result of a month's suffering with eye trouble and while it is probable that the eye itself will improve and heal entirely there is no hope that the sight will ever improve. He has had a hard time of it for a month, being confined to his home almost all the time. He has been under the treatment of a specialist continually.

DeWitts Carbolic Witch Hazel Salve—don't forget the name and accept no substitute. Get DeWitts. It's good for piles. Sold by J. G. Hall.

CHRISTMAS GOODS.

The holiday season is approaching and it is time to think about gifts for Christmas. You will find a choice line of Christmas goods, suitable for both old and young, at Mrs. T. Lanier.

EXCITEMENT RUN HIGH.

NARROW ESCAPE OF A LARGE FIRE IN OXFORD.

Fire Companies win More Honors—Allen-Harris Store Set on Fire by Roman Candle.

There was great excitement in Oxford last Saturday afternoon about 2 o'clock on account of a cannonading caused from exploding fireworks and a dense black smoke emerging from Allen-Harris store next to Bank of Granville, which drew an immense crowd of people. Some boys were in front of Harris-Allen store fooling with a roman candle and it exploded setting fire the Christmas fireworks stored near the door. In a minute the roman candles, baby wakers, earth jammers, sky rockets and pop crackers commenced a regular cannonading, causing the store to be vacated in a jiffy. The plate glass in front windows and in show cases soon crumbled to the heat and a dense black smoke filled the street. The continued explosion alarmed the town, but our brave Fire Boys were promptly on the scene and in a few minutes overcame powder with water and subdued the flames after a short hot fight. Harrah for the Oxford Fire Department as it is a veritable hummer in fighting fire! The flames were confined to the store destroying stock of confectioneries, cigars, books, fruits and badly damaging soda fountain. Both building and goods were insured.

When the battle of fireworks commenced Mr. Pittard Royster was sitting by the stove in the rear of store and was forced to face the terrific cannonading in order to escape as there is no back door to the store.

We hope the firm will soon get matters adjusted and resume business at an early date as they enjoyed a good trade.

Among the Brethren.

The Christmas edition of the Charlotte was ever issued the nicest paper ever issued in the State. It was attractively gotten up and full of choice matter. We extend congratulations.

The Henderson Gold Leaf is 26 years old and Brother Manning has done a great work for his town, and in every way deserves the thanks and hearty support of his people. May his gifted editor live long and prosper, and in the end reap a Golden Harvest in the city of the New Jerusalem.

The Sewerage System.

The contractor has finished laying the pipes for the Oxford sewerage system and we learn that the work has been well done. The connections are yet to be made along with leveling up the streets where the pipes were put down. We must congratulate the sewerage committee, composed of W. A. Devin, A. S. Hall, John Bullock, W. H. Hunt, and Engineer Ashton Chapman upon the most excellent manner in which they have managed the construction of the system, and saving the town several thousand dollars. They deserve the praise and thanks of our people.

A Sweet New Blossom.

"A sweet new blossom of humanity; Fresh fallen from God's own home to flower on earth."

This spoke Mr. John A. Niles as he came down town Monday morning taking two high steps at a time. "Not a lifeless, useless toy, we've a lively, bouncing boy," and his name is John A. Niles, jr. His grandparents, Dr. and Mrs. G. A. Coggeshall, are also delighted with the arrival of the dear boy. Verily, "what is home without a baby?" The editor congratulates the proud parents and trusts the promising, black-eyed boy may grow into noble manhood and fill the sunset of his parents' life with comfort and happiness such as can only come from a dutiful child.

SEE the beautiful assortment of pictures at Mrs. T. Lanier.

NEW Crop—Nuts all kinds, raisins, figs, currents, citrons, etc. Make the cake now at Hall's Drug Store.

YOU will find a beautiful selection of trimmed hats at greatly reduced prices at Mrs. T. Lanier.

IF YOUR watch has gone on a strike and your clock has quit striking why bring them to W. D. Stimson and he will adjust the matter promptly and properly. Located at Paris Dry Goods store.

HANDSOME Japanese China just the thing for a nice Christmas present at Mrs. T. Lanier.

BISHOP COLEMAN DEAD.

HE WAS TO HAVE BEEN IN OXFORD LAST SUNDAY.

This Able and Aged Divine Found Dead in Bed Saturday morning by His Son.

Wilmington, Del., Dec. 14.—Right Rev. Leighton Coleman, Bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Delaware, died today at the Episcopal residence in this city. His death was sudden and was not known until his son, Rev. Alex D. Coleman, of New York City, who came on to stay with him after his recent attack of illness entered his room and found him dead in bed. Bishop Coleman had been ill only about a week being first taken with a bad cold which subsequently developed into kidney trouble and it is presumed that death was directly due to heart failure.

He was born in Philadelphia May 3, 1837, and was the son of Rev. John Coleman a prominent priest of Episcopal church and writer on church matters. Bishop Coleman was educated at St. James School and the Episcopal Academy at Philadelphia and entered the theological seminary of New York graduating after 3-years' course in '61. After serving as rector of several churches in the East he was consecrated bishop of Delaware in 1888.

Bishop Coleman was widely known outside his church work from his long continued habit nearly every year of taking journeymen afoot, incognito in various parts of the country, his tours lasting from one to three weeks. He also took an active part in Masonry.

This distinguished divine had made an engagement to be in Oxford the first of the week and hold three days services, but owing to his illness cancelled his engagement and Sunday, the day he was to hold his first services, his consecrated spirit was communing his Beloved Redeemer around the Great White Throne.

Death of Willie Puckett.

The dark shadow of intense grief and sadness now rests over the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Puckett, for on the evening of December 4th the death angel entered that home and bore from its earthly tenement the sweet and gentle spirit of their little son Willie, who for a few short years had cheered and brightened their lives by his sweet, childish influence. Five weeks previous to his death he was seized with a severe attack of pneumonia which was followed by tuberculosis. All through his illness he bore his sufferings patiently and not a murmur was heard, but it was so sad to see him gradually waste away, to see his bright little face grow pale and thin from weakness and suffering. It is sad to realize that we are called upon to give up one we loved so dearly, to know that his sweet, cheerful voice will be heard no more, that no more his bright smiling little face will greet us here, but we know that the all-wise and loving Father doeth all things well and we seek comfort in the blessed thought that he has gone to a brighter, better world than this, and that his spirit now roams in a region of everlasting bliss where some day we hope to meet him again. Willie was of a kind and amiable disposition and none knew him but to love him. His schoolmates will miss his sweet companionship; his teacher the bright, intelligent little face that with a cheerful smile was accustomed to meet her at the school-room door; but deeper than this must be the void in the hearts of the devoted parents who had loved him so tenderly from infancy, and the dear grandmother who so lovingly watched by his bedside during the five weeks of his sickness. It is to them we extend our deepest and tenderest sympathy.

The funeral services were conducted by Rev. R. H. Marsh at Hesters' church where the remains were interred in the church cemetery.

In a house not made with hands, Where angel spirits roam; We hope to meet again Safe at home, sweet home.

So sweet, so pure on earth! Surely he must be there With the sainted ones in heaven, A cherub sweet and fair

Sleep on dear one, sleep on, Peaceful be thy rest; We bow to our Father's will, We know he knoweth best.

There is no pain in heaven, Thy sorrows now are o'er; Await us in that happy home, Where we'll part no, nevermore.

FRENCH Candy at 20c a pound. Best for the money at Hall's Drug Store.

HOW THE STATE STANDS.

Report of Legislative Committee on Treasurer's Book.

The Legislative committee for the annual examination and comparison of the books and vouchers in the office of State Treasurer and State Auditor finished their work Friday and Chairman Holt of the committee made an entry on the ledger to the effect that the books were found correctly and neatly kept and the vouchers and warrants intact to correspond. Subjoined to this is a statement of the finances at the close of business November 30th, 1907. This is as follows:

General fund: Balance on hand December 1, 1906, \$347,524.38; receipts for fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1907, \$2,603,293.35; total receipts for fiscal year \$2,950,817.73. Disbursements for fiscal year \$2,655,282.30; balance on hand general fund Dec. 30, 1907, \$295,535.53.

Educational fund: balance on hand Dec. 1, 1906, \$347,524.38; receipts for fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1907, \$2,603,293.35; total receipts for fiscal year \$2,950,817.73. Disbursements for fiscal year \$2,655,282.20; balance on hand general fund Nov. 30, 1907, \$295,535.53.

Educational fund: Balance in the Treasury December 1, 1906, \$58,431; receipts for fiscal year \$49,453.93; total receipts \$107,885.51. Disbursements for fiscal year \$97,913.02; balance on hand Dec. 1, 1907, \$9,671.49.

Total general and educational fund in Treasury Dec. 1, 1907, \$305,598.

Will Change Base.

The E. H. Crenshaw Co. has rented the two stores on Main street now occupied by Parham Bros. Co. from D. Herndon and will move first of the year, and will greatly appreciate the continued patronage of all in search of goods at lowest possible prices. Now is the opportune time to buy what you need as this company is now selling their entire stock at greatly reduced prices before moving up on Main street. Read their advertisement on the 8th page and see them and take advantage of the bargains the Crenshaw Co. are now offering.

The Panic! What Can It Be?

Some weeks ago a few of the money kings of the country, anxious to swallow up some of their small competitors, put on long faces began to look solemn and wise, and cried "Panic!" clutching their pocket-books with death like tenacity. Result: The little fellows have tumbled, surrendered their offerings, and the rapacious maws of these financial wolves have been satisfied. Therefore the "panic" is about over, and these former solemn and wise fellows have limbered up and are now as smiling as an undertaker returning from a rich man's funeral. So let us all rejoice and be glad and have the biggest and jolliest Christmas on record. Business is going to be good next year, no doubt. At any rate I am prepared to make every housekeeper feel glad who desires something good for Christmas. Everything you want from a ginger snap to pound cake. I will try to make it pleasant and profitable for you to trade with me. I carry the best goods I can buy. Yours to serve, L. THOMAS.

Buy Your Good Things at Dames.

I will give special prices on all Home made Candy from December 14 to January 1, 1908:

Candy at 10 cents will sell 3lbs 25cts
" 15 " " 2lbs 25cts
" 20 " " 15cts a lbs
" 30 " " 25cts a lbs
" 40 " " 30cts a lbs
" 50 " " 40cts a lbs

All Box Goods a speciality.

1 pound box candy at 15 cents.
1 pound box 25 and 40 cents.
2 pound box 50 and 75 cents.
3 pound box 90 and \$1.20.
5 pound box \$1.25 and \$2.00.

I will give reduced prices on all fruits, celery, nuts and raisins. Nice French baskets of Fruit at \$4 for \$3.50.

Cream at \$2 per gallon at \$1.75. Cream at \$1.50 gallon at \$1.25. 1-6 of gallon 65cts; 1 quart 35cts. Will sell mixed nuts, raisins and candy at wholesale prices. If you want the freshest and best come to see us. L. A. DAMES.

TURN over a new leaf. Buy a Bible at J. G. Hall's.

DON'T buy your Christmas presents until you see those displayed at Mrs. T. Lanier.

FRESH lot of Huylers, Lowneys and Royster's candies. J. G. Hall. Subscribe to the Public Ledger.

ITEMS FROM EXCHANGES.

NEWSY, POINTED ITEMS GATHERED FOR OUR READERS.

Short and Seasoned, Wise, Pert, Gay and Solemn Things Talked About in the Merry-go-Round.

Mr. Tillman declares that President Roosevelt is the biggest grand stand player in the United States.

Still, with so many candidates in the country, the cry for cheaper gas is strange.—Atlanta Constitution.

The farmer is worth more than all the dishonestly successful speculators of the whole country.—Detroit News.

The man who manufactures "biters" must view the progress of the prohibition wave with a twinkle in his eye.

It is said that the earth will be as dry as the moon in fifty thousand years. But Georgia will be that dry in a few days.

When an Alabama girl eloped, her father went along with her. He was probably afraid they might back out at the last minute.

In Gastonia and Hickory two more live North Carolina towns will soon have free mail delivery. They will all have it after awhile.

Just listen to this bit of impudence from Joe King in the Durham Herald: "The state seems to have suddenly reached the conclusion that it was none of its business what the Southern has been doing with its money."

Governor Glenn has said so much and written to judges, senators, congressmen and ministers probono publico that we suggest to him pro bono Glennico he takes a lengthy period of quietude.—Tarboro Southerner.

Gaston county is a leader in industry. She leads with 55 cotton mills in operation and about a dozen in course of construction. By the first of the year she will have over sixty mills. This leads not only North Carolina but the South.

A young man with a hatband inscribed "On the road to hell," was arrested in Texas the other day, and his pockets were found railroad tickets to New York and Chicago. Evidently he expected to find his destination in one place or the other.

A Tennessee farmer mistook the bust of Andrew Jackson at Memphis for Booker Washington the other day and plastered it with mud causing a riot. He must truly have been a bust, with the brand of whiskey they sell in dispensaries for fuel.

Chicago has a new social club; its membership being composed of widows and widowers, not sad but grass. To be eligible to membership the candidate must have been deserted by husband or wife. The Windy City can depend upon an early and large crop of "affinities."

"Do you think, 'Colonel,'" asked the beautiful girl, "that there is ever likely to be another clash between the North and the South?" "No," he replied, a little sadly, "what would be the use, my dear young lady, of trying to save the South now? Most of it has gone dry."—Chicago Record-Herald

The investigators of the Tobacco Trust are trying to find something in connection with the tobacco manufacturing industry that the trust doesn't own or control, but it is evidently uphill business. The Tobacco Trust is run by a North Carolina man and it is not surprising that its practices of trust methods isn't the least bit slipshod.—Greensboro Telegram.

The Atlantic Coast Line has positively declined to come into the compromise proposed by Governor Glenn in the railroad rate litigation, the putting in operation of a 2 1/2 cent flat rate inter- and intra-State, with mileage books at two cents in place of 2 1/2 cent flat rate intra-state now in force, pending the settlement of the constitutionality of the Legislative act providing the rate.

A speech by Senator Tillman, filled with denunciation of the President, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Department of Justice, of financiers and "captains of industry," was the chief subject of interest in the United States Senate on December 16th. His remarks were based on his resolutions directing an investigation by the committee on finance of the recent bond issues by the Treasury Department and of the issuance of clearing house certificates throughout the country.

When wd ds shriek high n fe wish glee, And enters winter with a key Protect yourself, from disease be free; Take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. J. G. Hall.