

LOCALS

OUR LITTLE DOG SAYS—



"About the only time some married men get to open their mouth is when they visit the dentist and at Christmas time. Too bad isn't it?"

—Mrs. M. C. Wilkins, of Courtney is spending the winter in Dallas, Texas.

—Miss Ruth Hall, a student at Farmville, Va., arrived home yesterday for the holidays.

—Mrs. Estelle Johnson Gough is spending some time with her daughter in Winston-Salem.

—10% off everything. Dec. only. Ann-Ola Supply Co., Brooks Cross Roads. 12 17 2t

—Dr. Rocky Wilkins, of Greensboro was in town visiting friends and relatives one day this week.

—Early Jersey Wakefield Cabbage plants 15c per hundred.—Mrs. J. E. Brendle, Boonville, N. C.

—Miss Lillian Davis, a student at Boone is spending her Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Davis, near East Bend.

—The annual Junior Order feast will be given in the hall at Yadkinville next Saturday night, Dec. 26. All members are requested to be present.

—I have 100 bushels of apples for sale. Also peanut candy 10c pound; cocoanut candy 2 pounds for 25 cents.—Lonnie W. Dixon. 12 10 3tp.

—Dr. Lola Taylor and brother Attorney J. K. Taylor of Birmingham, Ala., are spending the holidays with their mother, Mrs. Sarah Taylor on Route 2.

—Marriage license have been issued for Wade Brann to Vinna L. Speer, both of Boonville and Lester Myers to Annie Dixon, both of Yadkinville, Route 2.

—Miss Mamie Marler who has been a patient at the Baptist hospital at Winston-Salem for the past week is decidedly improved her friends will be glad to learn.

—Dr. L. S. Hall, who has been ill for several weeks is improving nicely and was out yesterday. He requests us to say that he expects to resume his practice by the coming Saturday.

—Wanted small farms, if you have a small farm for sale with buildings on it, give size and location, give price for cash, also with terms.—R. W. Cook, 2367 Waughtown St., Winston-Salem, N. C. 12 3 4tp.

—Lost, strayed or stolen, bird dog, white with yellow ears and yellow spots and about eight years old. Finder please notify or return to Lum Williams, near Shugartown, Yadkinville, Route two.

WASHINGTON SHEATHS HIS SWORD

On December 23, one hundred and forth-eight years ago, George Washington handed back to the Continental Congress his commission as Commander in Chief of the Revolutionary Army and returned to Mount Vernon, a simple American citizen. But the mere statement of that fact conveys little of the drama that lay behind his act. Only a few months before he became George Washington, private citizen, he might have become military dictator of America, and, at the lifting of a finger. He put aside the proposal in indignation, but had George Washington been other than the man he was, the history of the United States might read very differently from what it does.

While the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown in 1781 had virtually ended the Revolution in victory for America, desultory fighting still went on, and Washington wished to keep the army up to strength. It was nevertheless a period of inactivity, and the officers and soldiers had plenty of time to brood over their grievances at the hands of Congress.

Their pay was long in arrears. Numbers of the officers had sacrificed their personal fortunes to the cause of their country. And now they faced the prospect of being turned back into private life, penniless and ignored by a country that appeared to them ungrateful.

This better sentiment reached a climax while the army was stationed at Newburgh. It finally took shape in an open hint to Washington that he place himself at the head of this movement in the army to take over the government, and thus make himself dictator of America. So impoverished was the country, and so feeble had become the State and national governments, that nothing could have stood in the way of this move, had Washington yielded. Instead he indignantly rebuked his officers for this threatened stain on their patriotism, promised once more to stir Congress to take up the matter of payment and in this he finally succeeded.

Late in January, 1783, came news that the preliminary peace treaty had been signed in Paris. On April 17, Washington was informed that an agreement for the suspension of hostilities had been signed. In due time thereafter came the disbanding of the army, the triumphal entry of Washington and Governor Clinton into New York City, on the heels of the departing British, and the famous farewell that the Commander in Chief bade his faithful officers at France's Tavern. Immediately afterward, Washington went to Philadelphia, to present an account of his personal expenses during the eight years of the war.

This business being concluded, Washington left Philadelphia for Annapolis, where Congress was then sitting. There he arrived on December 20, and asked the president of Congress as to the manner in which he should resign his commission. The 23d was named as the day for this ceremony. At 12 o'clock the Maryland State House, where Congress was in session, was crowded for the occasion. The galleries and a large part of the floor in the Hall of Congress was filled with ladies, functionaries of the State and National Governments, military men, and citizens.

Washington entered, conducted by the secretary of Congress, and took his appointed seat. After a brief pause, General Mifflin, president of Congress, announced that "the United States in Congress assembled" were prepared to receive his communication. In the course of his brief address, Washington said, "The great events on which my resignation depended having at length taken place, I now have the honor of offering my sincere congratula-

tions to Congress, and of presenting myself before them, to surrender into their hands the trust committed to me, and to claim the indulgence of retiring from the service of my country." A few words of praise for his officers and the army, a solemn appeal for the blessing of God on his country, and he had finished.

A newspaper of the time, the Maryland Gazette, in describing the scene, said, "Few tragedies have ever drawn so many tears from so many eyes as the moving manner in which his Excellency took his final leave of Congress."

On the next morning Washington set forth from Annapolis and reached Mount Vernon that same evening — Christmas Eve — to spend there perhaps the happiest Christmas of his life. Thus eagerly did the victor of the war for our Independence forget military glory and return to the ranks of fellow citizens.

The American Indian celebrated his victories of the battleground with sumptuous feasts; he had no other festal days than those wherein he took the most scalps. The American white man is very different; he has many festal days, most of which celebrate some peaceful event.

Christmas is, or should be, a time of rejoicing. The family doctor here sees American life in

its varied phases. He is called to administer to the American glutton who "celebrates" with his stomach, and, unknown to the masses, his hand goes into his pocket to help bringing cheer to the squalid home. It is amazing how many homes of the latter sort we have when we take a second look.

If ever a people should feel profound gratitude and thankfulness to a beneficent Creator, then our people should be first in appreciation. There is abundance here for all, bar none. It is to be regretted that superior skill and sunning have taken most for themselves,—but that is not God's work, it is man's. He knew men pretty well, when He said, "The poor ye have with you always."

Gluttony is man's weakness—yes, it's a serious fault. I can see no reason for celebrating the birth of our Saviour in riotous living. It should be a spiritual, rather than a gastronomic feast. Indeed, my own Christmas hours are more filled with mental feasting than with material spices. I love to contemplate that wonderful manger and its princely occupant—and it is good for my soul. My body is amply content with the simplest things. We pay penalties for intemperance, without regard to when it occurs, Blessed Christmas! With its abundant, spiritual feast!

Heads Tariff Board



Robert Lincoln O'Brien, former Boston newspaper editor, has been named chairman of the Tariff Commission, succeeding Henry P. Fletcher. Mr. O'Brien was President Cleveland's personal stenographer.

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