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A CONSCIENCE LETTER.

Shoplifter Returns to Mr. Efrd Value of Belt Taken From His Store When No One Was Looking.

Mr. E. L. Efrd, the hustling manager of Efrd's big store here, awoke this morning to find that he was wealthier in this world's goods than he thought he was and naturally he is wearing a little broader smile than usual. Really any fellow would have a right to smile, for next to waking up in the morning and finding that the girl he loves loves him there is nothing that would cause a fellow's face to be wreathed in smiles quicker than to discover that he happens to possess more coin of the realm than he thought he did, even if the amount is small, say ten cents—or one slick dime, as the side show spieler would call it—which was the amount Mr. Efrd discovered was his.

While the busy merchant was opening his mail this morning he was surprised to find the sum of ten cents in one letter. On reading the epistle, which was from Greensboro, he was further surprised to see the statement that the money was for payment for a belt the writer, who was a woman "shoplifted" from his store on one occasion. The letter contained an open and frank confession and was signed with the full name, concluding with: "Yours in Christ," Mrs.

Of course Mr. Efrd does not know the price of the belt but evidently the writer did as she stated that was the amount due him. It is said that Mr. Efrd is at a loss as to what salesman to credit the sale to, if so the writer will gladly settle the problem, provided he will meet him at the soda fountain this afternoon.

Training Nurses—Free Scholarships.

The Philadelphia School for Nurses, 2219 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, announces that enrollment for the spring classes will shortly begin. This institution is recognized and endorsed by leading physicians everywhere. Free scholarships in the two year course are available and provide room, board, laundering, incidental expenses and railroad fare home on completion of the course. A home study course and a resident short course are also provided. The school provides full instruction under safe and wholesome conditions and opens the way to almost immediate financial betterment for those who need to increase their earning power.

A special short course class opens February 21st, 1912. This class is formed at the request of leading physicians who are anxious that some provision be made to meet the increasing demand for nurses in all sections. This is an opening which will be appreciated by those who need to quickly prepare themselves for self-support and nursing duty. An illustrated number of the school bulletin, which is sent free to interested persons, gives all the details.

Of Interest to Every Devoted Southerner.

The Confederate Veteran, Nashville, Tenn., disseminates information about soldiers of the war on both sides; it has long represented officially every general Confederate organization, and is enthusiastically supported by the men and women who are familiar with it. While ardently loyal as its name indicates, it is so dignified in tone and so patriotic that it maintains not only the respect but the good will of "the other side."

The Veteran is doing an important work in helping to establish records for dependent men who wore the gray and the widows of such who seek pensions. Besides, it secures intercommunication between friends of the long ago whose inquiries are printed gratuitously.

The Veteran is printed on fine paper and is illustrated with high-class engravings. It is one of the most creditable magazines in the country (price, \$1 a year), and the Editor prides himself in the assertion that in the distribution of over four millions of copies he has not heard of fourteen complaints.

S. A. Cunningham the founder, who has been at the helm these nineteen years requests this notice and that all who may be interested will write a postal for sample copy.

Party This Afternoon.

Mesdames J. F. Hurley and Richmond Reed will give a set back party this afternoon in honor of Mrs. Hurley's guests, Misses Fern Fortie, of Pikesville, and Annie Parker, of New York.

Don't fail to see the Imp comedy film at The Pastime Theatre today, "The Biting Business." It's one of the most provoking comedy films that has been in the city for some time.

BLIND TIGERS RAIDED.

Seven Dispensers of Firewater Jailed at Albemarle.

Special to Charlotte Observer. Albemarle, Dec. 28.—This afternoon at 4 o'clock, while the numerous blind tigers of Albemarle and vicinity were quietly enjoying the fruits of the Christmas trade, thankful for a most thriving business during the past year, 1911, and looking forward to 1912 with even brighter hopes for a most glorious success, suddenly without a moment's warning, Chief J. D. Love, with a corps of deputies, constables and specials, swooped down upon them like a bolt of lightning from a clear sky, and without pomp or ceremony, lodged seven of them in jail within a half hour's time and only by good bail did two others keep out of that unbusinesslike house of confinement. Still another escaped by the old self-made remedy, "leg bail."

Of course, this was sudden and shocking to the followers of the blind tiger trade, but it was by no means the result of a moment's thought on the part of the authorities. It was the result of a premeditated and deliberated plot and scheme deeply laid and well executed on the part of one M. J. Harris, mayor of Albemarle. More than a week ago Mayor Harris, considering the usual Christmas troubles from these pernicious animals, employed a detective agency to be on the lookout for the boys during the holidays. The results, so far, are excellent. The following are now safely lodged in the common jail of Stanley county: Lon Morton, Dave Teeter, (both white), Jake Plunkett, Henry Bruton, Frank Craig, Ralph Freeland (all colored), also Richmond Thomas, white. Some are out on bail for their appearance tomorrow morning before Recorder Sikes. Several of the above have served on the chaingang.

(The negro, Jake Plunkett, is from Concord, and has been in Albemarle for some time. The above is gratifying news.)

Hearts Dice Party.

Miss Emma Ross Leslie was the honoree at a charming and enjoyable hearts dice party last evening at the home of her grandmother, Mrs. E. C. Leslie, on West Depot street. The ladies price, a pretty hand painted toast, "Avery's Violets," was won by Miss Helen Archey, and the gentlemen's prize, a hand painted toast, "Here Is To The Land of The Long Leaf Pine," was won by Mr. Alfred Brower. The guest of honor prize, a lovely bouquet of carnations, was presented to Miss Leslie. The invited guests were: Misses Myrtle Pemberton, Ashlyn Lowe, Mildred Lott, Alma and Ethel Hamrick, Nell Herring, Catherine Goodson, Mary Hartzell, Jennie Woodruff, Laura McGill Cannon, Mary Lafferty and Helen Archey, Messrs. Eugene Barnhardt, Cy White, Alfred Brower, Ross and Charles Cannon, A. H. Sisk, Robert Critz, William Bingham, Edwin Lore, Warren Moody, Henry Smith, Fred Correll and Leslie Bell.

Paul Beattie Threatened.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 28.—A letter threatening the life of Paul Beattie, chief witness for the State in the recent murder case, is now in the hands of Detective L. L. Scherer, who is likewise threatened. The letter reads: "We think it our duty to warn you that we are going to give you until the first of the year to live, at which time you had better be prepared to meet your God."

"We will also hand Luther L. Scherer a lemon."

"Don't think this letter is from any crank, for it ain't."

"THE ORIGINAL TWO."

The letter was received on December 15 and was immediately turned over to Detective Scherer by Beattie.

Mr. Coltrane's Dinner Party.

Mr. Lester D. Coltrane, Jr., was host to a delightful dinner party last evening at 6:30 o'clock at his home on South Union street. After a most elegant repast had been served a number of games of forty-two were indulged in. The pleasures of the evening were greatly enhanced by several vocal selections very charmingly rendered by Miss Elizabeth Coltrane. Mr. Coltrane's guests were: Misses Blanche Brown, Jenn Coltrane, Ruth Coltrane and Elizabeth Coltrane, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Coltrane, Messrs. H. G. Gibson, N. P. Oglesby, of Bristol, and John M. Oglesby.

Vest Pocket Memorandums Here.

Our Vest Pocket Memorandums for 1912 have at last arrived. We ask all our subscribers to come in and get one. They are just about as handy a thing as you can have around.

IS THE STORY TRUE?

A Tragedy Said to Have Occurred Near Concord Just After the Close of the Civil War.

Mr. Editor: Ten years after the Civil War a certain party told me that just at the close of the war as our Southern soldiers were on their way home, that two men with four fairly good horses called at the Jack Means place, now Robt. Phifer's, just above the cemetery, to spend the night. Preferring to sleep out doors, they lay under the large trees in the yard. Next morning one of the men was still lying there with his head split open with an axe. The other was missing, as were the horses, the supposition being that one had brained the other during the night and left with all the horses. I have never heard of this from any other source. Is there any one now living that can give any other facts in connection with this story, or can any one verify the above facts? JOHN A. SIMS.

SEARCH FOR LOST CHILD.

Three Years Old Wandered Away Wednesday And It Is Feared She's Drowned.

Durham, Dec. 28.—Parties in squads of scores have been searching the western part of Orange county for little Bessie May Smith, who wandered off yesterday and is believed to have been drowned. The child, three years old, seeing her tiny brother going to their father, slipped away from her mother and tried to follow them to work. She lost her way at a branch, three-quarters of a mile from the house and the little tracks vanished there. Near this place is White Cross creek and it seems certain that she has been lost there. Nevertheless 150 men kept up the search all night, scoured the woods and fields without the slightest encouragement. A fierce change in the weather makes death almost certain if she escaped the creek. Mr. Smith is a farmer living ten miles west of Chapel Hill and is substantially fixed. His child has been lost since 11 o'clock yesterday morning.

Lynching Record for 1911.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 29.—The lynching record for 1911 shows a distinct though slight improvement over the records of previous years. The number of persons lynched since January 1—sixty—is slightly less than that of any other recent year. All but two of the sixty persons lynched were negroes. Of the fifty-eight negroes, one was a woman. The crimes charged against these victims range all the way from insult to criminal assault and murder. Georgia leads with the most lynchings—seventeen. Lynchings occurred in thirteen States. All of these were Southern or border States excepting Pennsylvania, which furnished the only instance of the year where the victim was burned at the stake.

Contrary to the record of previous years the majority of the victims were not accused of crimes against women. The victims accused of attacks on women numbered eighteen, while thirty-one were accused of murder. Two negroes were lynched for insulting white women, four for attempted murder, one for threatening to murder, one for highway robbery, and one for persistent stealing. Two were charged with plain assault and one was being held in jail as a suspicious character.

In several instances race riots were reported in which both whites and blacks were killed. These are not included in the record of the year.

Mr. Cook Will Canvass State for Bill Nye Fund.

Charlotte Observer, 29th.

At a special meeting of the Bill Nye Memorial Committee held yesterday afternoon at the Selwyn hotel, Mr. J. P. Cook, its treasurer, was authorized to make a canvass of the State to complete the fund for the erection of the Bill Nye building at the Stonewall Jackson Training School at Concord. At great personal sacrifice Mr. Cook tendered his services to the committee, offering to devote at least four months to the task of bringing to a successful conclusion an undertaking begun over a year ago. Mr. Cook's offer was gratefully accepted by the committee, and he will inaugurate his campaign at once.

Gratifying reports were received from all the members of the committee at the meeting yesterday, showing that there is a considerable amount on hand, and that the prospects for completing the undertaking are bright.

The Library will be closed New Year's Day.

GRAHAM-WINECOFF.

Pretty Home Wedding Last Evening At Forest Hill Parsonage.

Miss Ida Winecuff, of No. 2 township and Mr. W. G. Graham, of Charlotte, were married last evening at 7:30 o'clock at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. W. M. Robbins. The home was beautifully decorated for the occasion, the color scheme being red and green, many lovely floral designs being used. Little Misses Louise Robbins and Sarah Winecuff were floral girls. The bride was handsomely gowned in brown messaline. The groom was attended by J. D. Martin, of Charlotte. Rev. W. M. Robbins, a brother-in-law of the bride, performed the ceremony.

After the ceremony was performed an elegant wedding supper was served, after which the couple drove to the home of the bride's brother, Mr. G. R. Winecuff, where they will spend some time before taking up their residence in this county at the old Winecuff homestead.

Col. Bob Wallace And Sheep.

Mooresville Enterprise. Within recent months several well-to-do farmers of this part of North Carolina have ventured into the sheep-raising business, and the latest to be enlisted in the industry is Col. J. Robert Wallace, of Eastfield, Cabarrus county. Mr. Wallace has on his plantation of one hundred of the prettiest sheep ever seen in North Carolina, and his success with the fleece growing animals is being watched with keen interest by quite a large number of our people. Colonel Wallace is determined to give the industry a fair trial, and if he is successful, it will probably pave the way for others to make the venture.

Mr. M. F. Teeter, also of Cabarrus, started a sheep ranch near Harrisburg about one year ago, but on account of having secured a flock of diseased sheep to begin with, he was compelled to abandon his experiments and disposed of the animals in his possession. He has an abiding faith in the industry, however, and will again invest in another flock some time in the future.

Dance at Dr. Gonger's.

Dr. G. J. Gonger entertained a number of his friends at a delightful square dance in the Woodman hall at Gandersburg Wednesday night. The music was furnished by the Gandersburg string band and dancing lasted from 7 to 11 o'clock. Those dancing were: Misses Rose Johnson, Murphy Brown, Lillie Seaford, Anna Utz, and Julia Intz, Messrs. M. S. Benson, Jesse Winecuff, J. L. Johnson, Will Johnson, Homer Johnson, Will Ervin, Roy Ervin, Van McCall, Ernest Intz, Neal Overcash, Merle Thompson, E. E. Allison, George Ewart, D. P. Johnson, Mason Johnson, Ed. Seaford, John Sloan, J. F. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Benson, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Bradford and Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Smith.

Women Can Take California.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 26.—That the women can seize the reins of power from the men of California became known today when it was announced that there are 87,000 more registered women voters than men in the State.

The figures are from a careful census conducted quietly by the Women's Protective League. The exact figures are: Women, 670,140; men, 583,000.

The figures for the men are taken from those given out prior to the last State election.

An Aerial Submail Station is Ordered For North Carolina.

Washington, Dec. 28.—An order was issued by the postoffice department today for the establishment of an aerial submail station near Wilmington on the aviation grounds. All mail deposited in this office will be carried to the Wilmington postoffice by aeroplanes and will be the first station of its kind established in North Carolina. The first station established in this country was at the aviation meet in New York last fall when Lindsey Hopkins, a Greensboro boy, was one of the contestants.

How About This?

A gentleman who termed himself an inquiring citizen propounded this question to a Tribune reporter yesterday:

"If the city grants license to sell fireworks and the privilege to shoot them would it not be liable for damage to property that might be caused by the fireworks?"

The Georgia Democratic State Committee has decided to hold a presidential primary election some time prior to June 12.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Some of the People Here And Elsewhere Who Come And Go.

Miss Jean Maxwell is spending the day in Charlotte.

Mrs. R. A. Brown is visiting friends in Salisbury.

Mr. L. A. Scott is visiting relatives in Rowan county.

Mrs. D. G. Caldwell is visiting relatives in Mooresville.

Mr. W. A. Joyner, of No. 10 township, spent yesterday in Charlotte.

Mrs. R. L. Graham, of Charlotte, is the guest of Mrs. S. N. Watson.

Mr. A. P. Cannon has gone to Spartanburg on a short business trip.

Miss Rose Williford is visiting Mrs. W. L. Wiseman in Spencer.

Mr. John S. Braswell, of Charlotte, was a Concord visitor yesterday.

Mr. Olin Hoover is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Hoover.

Dr. Mack Smith, of Roland, is visiting his sister, Mrs. R. A. Brower.

Mrs. H. M. Blair, of Greensboro, is visiting her sister, Mrs. D. R. Hoover.

Attorney J. F. Newell, of Charlotte, is here today on professional business.

Mr. G. F. McAllister, of Mount Pleasant, is spending the day in Charlotte.

Little Misses Margaret and Mary Blair, of Charlotte, are visiting Mrs. J. P. Cook.

Mr. R. F. Stokes, of Charlotte, is visiting his sister, Mrs. E. J. Braswell.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Trice, of Lexington, spent yesterday here at the home of ex-Sheriff William Propst.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Swink, of China Grove, spent yesterday here, the guests of Dr. and Mrs. H. C. Herrington.

Mrs. T. C. Gutherie, of Charlotte, and Miss Todd, of Missouri, are spending the day in the city, the guests of Miss Jenn Coltrane.

Mrs. W. G. Watson and Miss Eleanor Watson, who had been visiting Mrs. J. L. Spout for several days, left this morning for their home in Salisbury.

Mrs. L. M. Davis and Mrs. William Davis, of Charlotte, Mrs. Boyd, of Spartanburg, and Mrs. Pong, of Greenville, are the guests of Mrs. Gowan Dusenbury.

Miss Blanche Gray, of Gastonia, is the guest of Miss Maude Brown.

GENERAL NEWS.

Late Items of News From Here, There And Everywhere.

Governor Kitchin has not yet named the man who is to succeed Judge Geo. W. Ward as judge of the First District.

There will be no executive clemency for L. M. Sandlin, wife murderer of Wilmington, who is under sentence to die in the electric chair at Raleigh Friday.

While on a drinking spree Saturday night, William Tyson, of Ansonville, went to the Christmas tree at the Baptist church of that town and after being put out of the church, shot and killed a horse owned by the superintendent of the Sunday school.

The Carolina Democrat, a strictly political paper published at Monroe by the Bessley brothers, has begun printing sketches of public men of North Carolina. Governor Kitchin is first, Locke Craige is to follow and presumably Simmons, Overman, Aycock, Glenn, Clark and all down the line.

Carolina Association Same.

Charlotte, Dec. 28.—The personnel of the Carolina Association of Professional Baseball clubs will remain the same the season of 1912 as it has been since the formation of the league in 1908. This was definitely decided this afternoon at a meeting of the directors of the league held in this city. The cities comprising the membership of the league are: Winston-Salem, Greensboro and Spartanburg, Greenville and Anderson, South Carolina.

In addition to passing on the personnel of the league, the directors re-elected J. H. Wear and T. W. Todd, both of Charlotte, president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, and adopted a schedule.

The season will be opened April 25 and close September 2.

Miss Blanche Gray, of Gastonia, is the guest of Miss Maude Brown.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS.

Items of News From All Parts of the Old North State.

Every time a Congressman dies in office it costs the government about \$9,500. The heirs are usually allowed one year's salary, \$7,500, and the other \$2,000 goes to burial expenses.

Tourist trains which are operated every winter by the Seaboard Air Line and the Atlantic Coast Line between New York and Florida points will be inaugurated on January 1, according to announcement made yesterday. This is a week earlier than usual, but the date is advanced because of the heavy travel which has already started southward.

The Hoffman House in New York is to be razed. For untold years this hotel was famous as the headquarters of the Democratic leaders, Tilden and Cleveland and Hill held many important conferences there. Most of the Democratic presidential nominees have made it their headquarters. What the Fifth Avenue hotel was to the Republicans the Hoffman was to the Democrats.

Killed Trying to Save Dog.

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 28.—Attempting to save his dog from death beneath a locomotive, George F. Blackwell, of this city, but a native of Elberton, Ga., was struck and instantly killed this afternoon about 2 o'clock by a Southern railway train just outside of the city limits. Mr. Blackwell, with one of his sons, was out hunting this morning. Returning they were overtaken by a train on a small trestle. They stepped out on a platform to await the passing of the train, but just as the engine approached, one of the dogs stepped on the track. While attempting to pull the animal back Mr. Blackwell was struck by the prow of the engine.

The ballot for the election in Boston on January 9 will be the smallest ever presented for an election in that city. Only twelve names will appear on the ballot, as candidates for the city council and school committee.

Shoes! Shoes! Shoes!

Hvea you been reminded recently that you need some new foot covering? If you have such a need, remember that H. L. Parks & Co. is the place where you can be supplied.

Infants' Shoes, in all colors-----25c to \$1.25
Children's Shoes, in all leathers-----50c to \$1.75
Misses' and Boys' Shoes, all styles and leathers-----\$1.25 to \$2.50
Ladies' Shoes, in all styles and leathers-----\$1.25 to \$4.00
Men's Shoes, in all styles and leathers-----\$1.75 to \$6.00

We have all the Good Makes at a price you would be glad to pay.

Give us a look.

H. L. PARKS & CO.

STRENGTH

Solve The Problem

IF IT'S A QUESTION OF SAFETY—OPEN A CHECKING ACCOUNT WITH THE MONEY YOU FIND NECESSARY TO HAVE ON HAND—JUST DRAW DAILY IT'S ANNOYANCE NEEDED, WHETHER IT'S A HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNT OR FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES

CONCORD NATIONAL BANK.
Capital \$100,000. Surplus \$33,000.
4 Per Cent. Interest Paid on Time Deposits.