NEW SHORT STORIES

A Famous Singer's Letters.

Not the least entertaining things in a singer's life are the letters she has sent her. In seeing and hearing an artist on the stage a degree of sympathy is established that, I suppose, makes the auditor appreciate a certain kind of acquaintance with the singer, says Zelie de Lussan in Leslie's Weekly. This seems at least to account for many letters I get. But sometimes they do seem a little personal. One gentleman, I remember, wrote: "You remind me of a lovely purring cat. You come on the stage and never look at the gallery." Another wrote that he neither smoked, chewed nor drank and that when I came his way he would show me about the town. One practical letter I recall, and the compliment it contained was of the kind that is always dear to the singer's heart. I had given the man a pleasure in life by my songs, and he wrote me a letter of advice. He said he knew singers were a careless, frivolous, spendthrift lot of people and that I ought to save my money. Following was a list of safe investments that he recommended, bearing 3 per cent interest. "You have given me some happy hours that I shall never forget," he said in conclusion. "Perhaps as a man of experience I have given you some advice that will be useful."

Queer Bookkeeping.

Mayor's Secretary William P. Ryan was commenting the other day on the way in which many illiterate persons seem to get along in the world. "The late William J. Carroll used to tell a good story along this line," said Mr. Ryan. "He had business connected with the collection of rents which used to take him to a certain place on the eastern shore at intervals. On one occasion he went into a store there, the

"I DIDN'T SEE THE DOT IN THE MIDDLE."

proprietor of which could neither read nor write. While he was there a man came in who was evidently a regular customer.

"'I owe you some money, don't I?' he said to the storekeeper.

"The latter went to the door and turned it around so that the back was visible.

"'That's so,' he replied. 'You owe me for a cheese.'

"'A cheese?' replied the customer. 'No; I don't.'

"The storekeeper looked at the door again.

"'That's so,' he said. 'It's a grindstone. I didn't see the dot in the middle.'"—Baltimore Sun.

The Policeman's Dilemma.

A London newspaper tells this anecdote: "Last evening a strolling policeman was passing the barrow of a costermonger who was weighing out plums to a customer. The coster, as costers do, quickly chucked off the top plum as overweight. The policeman, as policemen do, took a casual plum as his perquisite. But the biter was bit, for his teeth ground hard upon the iron simulacrum of a plum. It was the very one the coster had thrown off the balance. Now, what could a policeman do? As a gentleman he could neither prosecute, for the situation was a delicate one, nor steal a business asset. He took the right course. He returned the iron plum to the stall and took a real one."

Men Getting Scarce.

The advantages of the modern Portia are counterbalanced by an equally large number of difficulties that confront the woman lawyer. Mayor Low's secretary, James B. Reynolds, is still telling his friends a little sting he had recently at Miss Rosalie Loew, the attorney for the Legal Aid society. Miss Loew was conducting a hearing before the mayor and called one morning to tell Mr. Reynolds she could not attend the afternoon session.

"I've got to go over to Ludlow street and get a man out of jail," she said by way of explanation.

"Oh!" exclaimed Mr. Reynolds in grave surprise, "Are they really getting as scarce as that?"—New York Times.

A Juvenile Dramatist.

Herman Merivale, who at ten years old wrote a play in which a cook poisoned a whole royal family at once, tells in his fascinating autobiography, just published, of a small niece of his who has lately embarked on a similar experiment. Here is a scene from the first act as Mr. Merivale gives it in his book:

"King Edward I. and courtiers, discovered.

"A Courtier—My liege, a gentleman awaits below.

"King Edward—Oh, tell him to be ——, I want my lunch."

Mr. Merivale adds that his niece is "very young and rather Puritanic."

THE LIGHT THAT FAILED.

And Will Again Fail Tonight. A Dark City at Christmas Time.

At 9 o'clock last night, the City Electric Light went out to the annoyance and discomfort of all who depended on it. The streets were left in darkness and mud and store keepers had to rush about looking up kerosene lamps.

To those doing business and dependent upon the city for their light, a failure like last night is a serious matter, and damaging, for no light during this week means loss to merchants.

There should be no failure again. Excuses do not excuse such failures.

And what is worse, there will be no city electric lights tonight, perhaps not Wednesday night.

Those who have the Williams electric light and gas can make out, but those who have not, must get lamps or close up at sun down.

It is a most deplorable condition for the city to be placed in just at this time of the year. It means loss to the retail trade and general discomfort.

Marriage Announcement.

The Journal has received the following:

Mrs. Sarah E. Hanks requests the honor of your presence at the marriage of her daughter Sarah Cornelia, to Mr. Lycurgus Henry Cutler, Jr. on Wednesday afternoon, the thirty first of December nineteen hundred and two, at five o'clock. Methodist Church, New Berne North Carolina.

How About It?

Now is the time that the teams of the National and American League base ball clubs are getting grounds for their spring practice.

New Bern could easily secure one of these teams to train here as the grounds are considered one of the best in the South and the climate is all that could be asked for.

Let those who are members of the Athletic Association take some steps in getting one of these clubs. A description and location of the grounds and the weather conditions have been sent to the "Sporting Life" by its correspondent here, and all remains now is for some one to push it.

Speed Is Costly.

They tell great things about the speed of the ocean greyhounds, but omit to say that speed costs, as does every other luxury. They expect to drive the Kaiser Wilhelm II. twenty-four knots an hour, but it will take an expenditure of 40,000 horsepower to do it, whereas 14,000 horsepower will drive the Cedric, the largest ship in the world, seventeen knots.

Every additional pound of steam means more coal, more "hands" and more expense in every direction until the increase of speed is soon forbidden by the increased cost.

An attempt to drive a ship or a man too fast soon costs more than either is worth. Why not take it easy?

A Ship's Feathered Guests.

The captain in charge of a lightship situated at the entrance of San Francisco harbor recently reported to the United States lighthouse commissioner that a large number of land birds took refuge on board the vessel. A dense smoke from northern forest fires hung over the locality and completely obscured sea and land. Evidently the birds had lost their way, and, exhausted by their long flight, the wanderers alighted on the ship undeterred by the presence of the crew. At one time sixty of the feathered guests were counted on various parts of the ship. Owls, cranes, humming birds and other non-marine species were noticed during the time.

Annual Installation St. John's Lodge No. 10.

The Annual Conclave of St. John's Commandery No. 10, Knights Templar was held in the Masonic Hall Friday evening. Addresses were made by Past Grand Commander Hackburn, Guion and Redmond. The following officers were elected and installed for the year 1903.

F Ulrich, E C.
E B Hackburn, Gen'l.
C D Bradham, Capt. Gen'l.
T A Henry, Prelate.
T A Green, Treas.
James Redmond, Recorder.
J C Green, S Warden.
W A McIntosh, J Warden.
W S Simmons, Std. Bearer.
O H Guion, Swd. Bearer.
S R Street, Warder.
J F Rhem, Sentinel.

METHODIST JUVENILES

Give a Christmas and Missionary Exercise at Centenary Church

The juveniles of the Centenary Methodist Sunday School were active participants in a very pleasing exercises at the church Sunday night which were witnessed by a large and interested audience.

The first part of the program was devoted to the Christmas feature and the last part was a missionary program. The little folks performed their parts very nicely. A pleasing feature of the entertainment was the collection for missionary purposes which was begun by a mite collection by the scholars. The mite and church collections amounted to about $35.

Hello There! Say,

Stop a moment. Can you tell me the place I want to go to? Well, you're a fool. How do I know where you want to go? Well I'm not so much so as you take me for. But do show me 42 Middle St. or a place called

PEL DO IT.

Well, my friend, you're all right, I'm going there myself, to buy an overcoat. Come right along with me.

AROUND AND ABOUT.

All interested in the diamond ring contest call around at Bryan's at eight o'clock tonight.

Those contemplating attending the Christmas dances should secure their tickets as soon as possible. Price, three dollars for two dances.

The wedding of Mr. Joseph Charles Barker, of Stella, and Miss Mamie Belle Weeks, of Cedar Point, is announced to take place at the Bethlehem Church Thursday evening at 4 o'clock.

The Wilmington Star says its foot ball team has been practicing for some time, preparatory to visiting this city on Christmas, when it plays the New Bern team. The local team has something before it to defeat Wilmington.

Mr. R. J. Fulcher and Miss Georgia A Thomas, well known young people of Askins were united in marriage by magistrate N. T. Fulcher at his home in No. 2 township Sunday afternoon at four o'clock.

A little business was done at the police court yesterday. Susan Shaw, colored had to pay $2.75 for disorderly conduct. Nathan Barrington D. M. Proctor and Frank Pate were each taxed the costs, three dollars, for the fun of getting drunk.

Christmas week was ushered in with unpleasant weather yesterday, having rained all the morning and being threatening in the afternoon. The rainfall was 1.31 inches. Notwithstanding the bad weather the streets were crowded and business was very good.

The colored man. Hilliard Pollock, who was shot in an affray on Broad street a few nights ago, and whose wound was supposed to be fatal at the time, was reported yesterday as much improved.

A boat load of fine fish was in the market yesterday. They were very small, and buyers requested that instead of bunching, the fish should be measured by the peck. A man from the country purchased a half bushel.

Merchants are highly pleased with their trade yesterday. The crowds were good all day and in the afternoon they were enlarged by people from the country. Christmas shopping had its best day so far.

Velvets, Velvets, Velvets.

We still have a nice line of Velvets and other millinery goods on hand, all to be sold for less than cost Respectfully. J. J. BAXTER.

Letter to N. C. Hughes.

New Bern, N. C.

Dear Sir: Your business is, when a house burns down, to give the owner some money to build a new one. It is a good business. Queer that the world got on so long without it.

We paint the one that burnt down and the new one too. What is better, we paint the houses that don't burn down.

You insure the houses that burn; we insure the houses that don't. You have the ashes and smoke; all the houses are ours.

We paint Lead and Zinc; Devoe. We sell the paint to painters; We don't paint.

Lead and oil is the old-fashion print Devoe is zinc ground in with the lead and linseed oil: the best paint in the world: and the cheapest, because it takes fewer gallons than mixed paint and it wears twice as long as lead and oil. Nobody wants poor paint; there's lots of it, though, in the world.

A. M. Griffin Plainfield, N. J., writes; Mr. Aaron Higgins, of Plainfield, always used 15 gallons of mixed paint for his house. Last Spring he bought 15 gallons of Devoe and had four gallons left.

Yours truly,
F. W. DEVOE & Co.,
New York.

P. S.—E. W. Smallwood sells our paint,

Foot Ball Christmas Day.

Manager T C Daniels has completed arrangements with Mr Cliff S Hopkins of the Wilmington foot ball team for the game here next Thursday, Christmas day.

The Wilmington team will arrive here Wednesday evening over the A. C. L. and will spend two nights and one day with our boys.

The New Bern team will be greatly strengthened for the Christmas game, as Herbert Lupton, the hustling little tackle, will be back from school in time for the game.

Everybody is requested to make no engagements that will interfere with the game as the boys are under a great expense in getting this match arranged and it is hoped that a large crowd will be on hand.

NEW BERN PRODUCE MARKET

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Eggs, per doz	21c,
Chickens, old per pair	60 & 65
" young, per pr	35 & 40
Pork, per lb.	9 & 10
Beef, "	5 & 6
Hides, green, per lb	5c
" dry, "	9 & 10
Beeswax, "	20 to 25
Corn, per bush	55 & 56
Oats, "	55c
Peanuts	85
Potatoes, Yams	65
Bahamas	40

Local Grain Market.

Corn, per bu	$ .65
Oats per bu	.50
Meal, per bu	.70
Hominy, per bu	.70
Corn bran, per 100 lbs.	1.35
Wheat bran, per "	1.40
Feed, 100 lbs	1.70
Cotton seed meal, 100 lbs.	1.50
Cotton seed hulls, 100 lbs	.75
Ship stuff	1.50
No. 1 Timothy, per ton	20.00

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

Mr J H Davis, Jr., of Harlowe was here yesterday.

Mr W T Perry, of Trenton, was in the city yesterday.

Mrs R W Haywood, of Greensboro, is visiting her parents.

Mr Fred Scott, of Philadelphia, is visiting his parents here.

Mr H W Barrington, of Olympia, was in New Bern yesterday.

Mr and Mrs L B Ennett of Cedar Point, spent yesterday in the city.

Mr W T Caho, of Bayboro was in the city yesterday, on a business visit.

Mr. John Thomas is spending the day in Newport.

Rev N M Jurney of Carteret county spent yesterday in town.

Mr W T Civils of Rhems, was in the city yesterday on business.

Mrs Guy W Pope has returned from a visit with her mother at Piney Grove.

Rev H C Moore and family are passing the holidays with relatives in Goldsboro.

Mr Thos L Craig, of Gastonia, N C arrived here Sunday to spend the holidays with relatives.

Dr Charles Duffy went to Raleigh yesterday to attend the meeting of the State Board of Charities.

Mr Adolph Nunn is entertaining his friend Mr Edward W Barck of Selma, N. C.

Sheriff James W Biddle went up to Core Creek yesterday on official business.

Miss Lottie Jordan left yesterday morning for Raleigh to spend the Christmas holidays.

Mr F C Bryan of Chicago is in the city for the holidays the guest of his father, Judge Henry R Bryan.

Miss Belle Hines who has been visiting at Mr William Barrington returned to her home at Dover yesterday.

Mr Isaac Wayne Hughes a student of the Horner Military Institute at Oxford is spending his vacation here.

Mr Alpheus W Disosway of the Medical Department of the State University is spending his vacation at his home.

Mr J F Patterson, who is taking a medical course at the State University is at home for the holidays.

Miss Mary L Hendren, of the faculty of Greensboro Female College is spending the holidays at home.

Mr Edmund W Vick, of Selma, N C, who has been the guest of Mr Adolph Nunn, has returned home.

Messrs E K Bishop and N C Hughes, left Monday night for New York, to spend the holiday season in that city.

Miss Ola Barker and Mr Robt Sabiston, of Stella, left here yesterday, returning home from an extended trip to New York.

Mr Shepard Bryan, of Atlanta, Ga., is in the city to spend the holidays with his parents Judge and Mrs H R Bryan.

Mrs J W Stephenson and children, and Miss Julia Stephenson of Smithfield, are spending the holidays with Mr G D Gordner, No- 10 Union St.

Miss Bessie Davis spent the day with her brother Mr D R Davis yesterday and left on the evening train for Beaufort.

Miss Ruth Howard passed through the city last night enroute from Littleton College to her home in North Harlowe.

Miss Cora Eagle returned from her studies at Littleton Female College yesterday to spend the vacation at her home.

Miss Janie Stewart returned from her studies at Greensboro Female College last night and is passing the vacation at home.

Mr C H Thomas who has been engaged in the tobaccco business here for several months returned to his home in Wilson last night.

Miss Jessie Bumpas returned yesterday from Littleton Female College where she has been studying and is spending the holidays at her home.

Messrs H Taylor, Fred Spencer and A Cox and Miss Lillie Spencer students of the Rhodes School at Kinston are spending the holiday vacation at their homes in this vicinity.

ASKINS.

Dec. 19.—The weather has been cold for the past week.

It seems as if it will be a dull Christmas around here this year.

There was a marriage at Zorah Wednesday evening, Miss Amanda Knox to Mr. John Sutton of near LaGrange.

There will be a Christmas tree at Kitt Swamp, Christmas Eve night, everybody is invited to come.

HAZEL.

THE VALUE OF EXPERT TREATMENT.

Everyone who is afflicted with a chronic disease experiences great difficulty in having their case intelligently treated by the average physician. These diseases can only be cured by a specialist who understands them thoroughly. Dr. J. Newton Hathaway of Atlanta, Ga. is acknowledged the most skillful and successful specialist in the United States. Write him for his expert opinion of your case, for which he makes no charge.

Tenney's Candy at Davis'.

A fresh assortment of Tenney's Candy has just been received at Davis' Pharmacy.

MAN ABOUT TOWN.

A Few Appropriate Remarks About The Christmas Season.

Christmas is almost here with all its good cheer. If there is any time that the world is good it is now. Can it be that this goodness is in respect to the old tradition. That at the time of the birth of Him for whom the day is named that all the then known world was at peace and all the inhabitants were impressed with the sacredness of the occasion? There may be some sinister motive in some of this goodness but there is little doubt that each succeeding year sees more attention paid to the religious sentiment of the Christmas season.

One good sign of this sentiment is the disposition to remember the unfortunate When many rich people of the cities unite in a systematic enterprise to help suffering humanity a chord is touched which finds easy response in the hearts of all the people. The truth of the saying, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" is established by actual test.

The shattering of the children's idol, Santa Claus is heartless and therefore it is wrong. If the idea is bad because Santa Claus is a myth, there is no use in attempting to over throw the tradition of so many years standing. The argument that in harboring the Santa Claus story is in danger of making children disregard truth is silly as when they become older they shake off the ideas that they have for so long fostered and grow into better men and women. The Santa Claus idea makes good children and has no effect on their after lives except as they reflect on the years of childhood when they believed in Santa Claus.

MAN ABOUT TOWN.

Maysville Church Festival.

On Friday night, December 26, 1902 at the academy, the business men of Maysville will give a festival for the benefit of the M. E. Church at that place. Every body is cordially invited to attend. Come and you will enjoy yourselves. Your presence will be much appreciated.

Very truly yours,
MRS. M. R. SABISTON,
MRS. D. J. WATSON,
MRS. K. R. HAY,
MISS ANNIE KOONCE,
MRS. A. J. COLLINS,
Managers.

The Right Kind of Christmas Gift.

A most valuable and welcome Xmas present, would be a year's subscription to the Circulating Library.

Some of the ladies have worked very hard to sustain the library and they hope all subscribers have enjoyed the books and will renew their subscription another year, beginning March the first. A nice lot of new books have been ordered and are expected daily.