

**HOW CHRISTMAS BEGAN.**

Date of December 25 Set in Fourth Century by Decision of Pope Julius—Name Originated From Special Mass.

It is generally understood that the true date of Christ's birth cannot be ascertained from the New Testament, nor from any other source. But all controversy as to the date was happily terminated in the fourth century by the decision of Pope Julius, who had an investigation made by St. Cecil and became fully satisfied that, as nearly as could be ascertained, December 25 was the correct date. Before the end of the fourth century the dictum was universally accepted, and since that time nobody has ever seriously thought of seeking to change the date.

The observance of the festival of the Nativity was from the beginning called Christmas (Christmas), because a special mass was celebrated on that day. The pure glow of the spiritual festival dissipated the dark clouds of heathen and wicked ceremonies that marked the notorious Roman Saturnalia; but the Christian observance, while exterminating the rites of the heathen festival which it displaced, permitted many of the pleasing and innocent features to remain. Among these are customs which survive in the twentieth century—the decorating with evergreens, holly, and laurel; the burning of the Yule log; and the singing of Christmas carols, which are the evolutions of the ancient hymns of praise to Saturn and Bacchus and other heathen gods.

It was not until the sixth century that the whole of Christendom united in keeping Christmas on the same day. The reasons for this delay in instituting the feast are summed up by an authority who explains that, in the first place, no corresponding festival was presented by the Old Testament, as in the case of Easter and Pentecost; second, the day and the month of the birth of Christ are nowhere stated in Gospel history, and cannot certainly be determined; third, that the Church lingered at first about the death and resurrection of Christ, the completed fact of redemption, and made this the center of the weekly worship and the Church year; and fourth, that the earlier feast of Epiphany afforded a substitute for the festival of the Nativity.—New York Evening Post.

**A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES**  
Itching, Blind, Bleeding, Protruding Piles. Druggists are authorized to refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure in 6 to 14 days. 25c.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 32.—The Baptist state board of missions has elected the Rev. W. R. Bradshaw, at present pastor of the First Baptist church at Reidsville, and the Rev. Braxton Craig, now pastor of the Baptist church at Rocky Mount, as convention evangelists, respectively, for the western and eastern sections of the state. They will receive salaries of \$1,200 and expenses.

Reprint, News-Herald: "There is at least one effectual, safe, and reliable Cough Cure—Dr. Shoop's—that we regard as suitable, even for the youngest child. For years, Dr. Shoop bitterly opposed the use of opiates or narcotics in medicine, offering \$10 per drop to any one finding Opium, Chloroform, or any other poisonous or narcotic ingredient in Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure. And the challenge is as yet unanswered. Here is one manufacturing physician, who welcomed with much satisfaction, the new Government Pure Food and Drug Law. The public can now protect itself at all times, by insisting on having Dr. Shoop's, when a cough remedy is needed." Sold by Hood Bros., Druggists.

**A TIME TO ALL THINGS.**  
And the time has come when I am going to sell at some price the six houses and lots that I own in Smithfield, N. C. Terms can be made easy enough. Write me at Wise, N. C. I will be in Smithfield for a few days on or about January 1st. Mr. H. L. Johnson will show the property. W. J. Stephenson.

THE BANK OF WAYNE issues a Booklet, "Banking Made Plain." It tells you all about how a bank is managed, and how you can deal with it. We will send you one if you ask for it.

**School Entertainment.**

The Christmas entertainment, given by the teacher and pupils of "Swinney Old Field School" last Thursday, December 20th, was pronounced by all present to be a grand success. The teacher, Miss Mary E. Williams, is an accomplished young lady of of Newton Grove, Sampson County.

The concert consisted of recitations, songs, plays, drills and music, which was sufficient to keep the crowd sufficiently amused. The music was harmoniously rendered by Messrs. Wade Ellis, of Clayton; — Jones, of near Clayton; and Isaac Perry, of Durham. The stage was artistically decorated with pictures, evergreens and the motto, "Oh Lord Direct Us."

The students acquitted themselves admirably, by which they won much praise for themselves and teacher, from all present.

**Then He Proposed.**

A very shy youth sat on the sofa with his lady love. Too diffident to pop the question, he gradually slipped his arm around her waist, and after a long silence blurted out, despairingly, "I don't seem to be making much progress." "Perhaps not," replied the lady. "But, anyhow, you're holding your own."—St. James's Gazette.

**Merely a Suggestion.**

He (bashfully): "May I—er—kiss your hand, Miss Dolly?" She: "Oh, I suppose so. But it would be much easier for me to remove my veil than my glove."—Chicago News.

**\$450 SPOT.**

\$450 spot cash will buy 30 acres of well timbered land within one mile of the town of Clayton, N. C. W. A. Barnes.

**New Firm.**

We have associated our selves together to do business under the firm name of J. J. Ferrell & Co. We shall occupy two stores, including the one formerly used by Edgar Stallings. We expect to keep a full line of Dry Goods, Notions, Groceries, Fruits, and Confectioneries, Christmas Goods in great variety.

**We Ask Your Patronage.**

**J. J. FERRELL,  
T. R. CARROLL,  
H. POOL,**

CLAYTON, N. C.

**WANTED!**

I want to buy Cattle, Pork, Hides, and Country Produce. I run a

**FIRST CLASS MARKET**

and deal in Fresh Fish, Beef, Pork, and other Fresh Meats. I keep Fancy Groceries also.

**Restaurant in Connection**

and meals served at all hours. I ask your patronage. Give me a call.

**Z. B. Stewart,**

BENSON, N. C.

**New Home  
Machines**



I am still agent for the light running New Home Sewing Machines. If you need one write to me. Mr. J. H. Eason is with me and can carry one to you.

**J. M. BEATY,**  
Smithfield, N. C.

A Boston schoolboy was tall, weak and sickly.

His arms were soft and flabby. He didn't have a strong muscle in his entire body.

The physician who had attended the family for thirty years prescribed **Scott's Emulsion.**

**NOW:**

To feel that boy's arm you would think he was apprenticed to a blacksmith.

ALL DRUGGISTS; 50c. AND \$1.00.



**HAPPENINGS AROUND ARCHER.**

Christmas will soon be here and old Santa Claus will come again.

Our sick people are all out again to the delight of their many friends.

Messrs. W. L. Stancil and J. H. Carroll made a business trip to Raleigh Saturday.

Miss Lillie Thompson, of Wilso, is visiting relatives and friends here this week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Newton are visiting relatives and friends near Spring Hope this week.

Elder J. A. T. Jones preached a very interesting sermon to a large audience at Salem last Sunday.

We are informed that Mr. J. W. Price and family leave for Raleigh, their future home, Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Browning, of Earpsboro, spent last week with their daughter, Mrs. Geo. R. Stancil.

Mr. and Mrs. John I. Barnes, of Clayton, visited Mrs. Barnes' parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Wall, Sunday.

Mrs. W. H. Austin, of Roseville, returned home Sunday after an extended visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Wall here.

Mrs. W. J. Bissett and her brother, Mr. D. W. Taylor, are spending this week with relatives in Mount Pleasant, Nash County.

North Carolina Day was observed at the Balton school house last Friday with appropriate exercises. The children's contribution to the Melver fund was 55 cents.

We are informed that Mrs. Bunch, living near here, was thrown from a wagon and her shoulder dislocated. Mrs. Bunch is an aged lady and the accident is considered serious if not fatal.

Dec. 17. S. L. W.

**HAS STOOD THE TEST FOR 25 YEARS**

The old, original GROVE'S Tasteless Chill Tonic. You know what you are taking. It is iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure, No pay. 50c.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 24.—The funeral of Miss Maria Toole Haywood was conducted from Christ church today at noon. She was in her ninety-second year, having been born January 14, 1815, in this city. She was the last survivor of her generation of a distinguished family, being really the oldest native inhabitant of Raleigh. She was the daughter of Sherwood Haywood, one of four brothers who were prominent in the life of the city and state in the first quarter of the last century. Her brothers were Dr. Rufus Haywood, Thos. Haywood, Col. Francis P. Haywood, Gen. Robt. W. Haywood and Dr. Richard B. Haywood.

Piles get quick relief from Dr. Shoop's Magic Ointment. Remember it's made alone for Piles—and it works with certainty and satisfaction. Itching, painful, protruding, or blind piles disappear like magic by its use. Try it and see!  
Hood Bros., Druggists.

W. G. Yelvington has put in a full stock of nice clothing of the latest styles—all colors—for Men, Youths, and children; all sizes and prices to suit every one that wishes to buy cheap. Give him a call before you buy if you wish to save money.

**Mrs. Chrissie Miller Strickland.**

A beautiful life ended at Lucama, N. C., in the death of the above named lady.

Mrs. Chrissie Miller Strickland was born January 15th, 1882, died December 2nd, 1906. She was the daughter of Mr. J. G. Miller, of Asheboro, N. C., and is better known in Randolph County, where she spent her girlhood days. At an early age she showed a wonderful talent for music, and has been a faithful lover and student of music the greater part of her life. Five years ago she came to Lucama and started a music class, which has grown and proved to be a most prosperous one, under her instruction. Mrs. Strickland was married to Mr. G. B. Strickland August 31st, 1904, and since that time has made her home here in Lucama, where everybody, young and old, learned to love her.

Truly a good woman has gone from our midst. She was a woman of strong character, sweet and amiable disposition, always bringing cheer and sunshine with her presence. Hers was a beautiful life, and how we shall miss her, but our loss is her eternal gain. She has gone to her reward and on the opposite shore of the "River of Life" she is waiting for those she loved so dearly here on earth. At an early age she professed faith in Christ and has since lived a devout Christian and member of the M. E. church.

Her remains were laid to rest in the Asheboro cemetery December 4th.

She leaves a husband, son, father, mother, two brothers, one sister and a host of friends to mourn their loss.

"A dear one has left us,  
And our loss we deeply feel,  
But 'tis God that has bereft us,  
He can all our sorrows heal."

A FRIEND.

Lucama, N. C.

If "taken at the Sneeze Stage" Preventives—a toothsome candy Tablet—will surely and quickly check an approaching cold or Lagrippe. When you first catch cold—or feel it coming on—take Dr. Shoop's Preventives, and the prompt effect will certainly surprise and please you. Preventives, surely supply the proverbial "ounce of prevention". Sold in 50 cent and 25 cent boxes by Hood Bros., Druggists.

**XMAS HOLIDAY RATES VIA ATLANTIC COAST LINE.**

One and one third fares plus twenty-five cents for the round trip to all points in South eastern Passenger Territory, and to points on connecting lines east of the Mississippi and south of the Ohio and Potomac Rivers, including St. Louis and intermediate stations.

TICKETS on sale December 20th to 25th, inclusive 30th and 31st, 1906, and January 1st, 1907, final limit January 7th, 1907.

T. C. WHITE,

Gen. Passenger Agent.  
W. J. CRAIG,  
Pass. Traffic Manager.

The Amalgamated Copper Company alone employs about 10,000 persons at Butte, Mont., in addition to about 1,500 at Great Falls, 2,000 more at its coal mines and lumber camps.

**CASTORIA**  
For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher*

**Ask for the Genuine**



**And see that you get what you ask for**

The largely increased demand for Sun Cured tobacco, created and sustained by the distinctive quality of the original Reynolds' Sun Cured tobacco, has encouraged other manufacturers to place on the market imitation brands and tags which are made to look so near like the genuine Reynolds' Sun Cured that unsuspecting chewers and dealers receive the imitations under the belief that they are getting the genuine Reynolds' Sun Cured tobacco.

Look close and see that the letters on the tag spell R-e-y-n-o-l-d-s' Sun Cured, and you cannot be deceived in getting what you ask for and want,—the best value for your money that can be produced from the genuine Sun Cured tobacco, grown where the best sun-cured tobacco grows.

**ASK FOR "REYNOLDS"**

and see that you get the original and genuine Sun Cured tobacco.

It's like you formerly got, before Reynolds' Sun Cured was offered to the trade, costing from 60c to \$1.00 per pound, and is sold at 50c per pound in 5c cuts, strictly 10 and 15 cent plugs.

**R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO., Winston-Salem, N. C.**

**For Groceries**

Fresh, Up-to-date Call on Acme Grocery Co., and see their display of Heavy and Fancy Groceries. All kinds Pickles, in bottles and barrels; Preserves, catsup, Pepper Sauce, Stuffed and plain Olives, and all kinds of canned goods. Boneless Ham, Breakfast Bacon, country Hams and western meat and anything good to eat. Chewing Tobacco from 25 to 50c per pound.

**Acme Grocery Co.,**

Phone 12 Smithfield, N. C.

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