

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1913.

CHRISTMAS.

It is here again—the glad care-free Christmastide. It is the universally observed holiday of the Christian world.

With all of us, as with Dickens, Christmas should be a "kind, forgiving, generous, pleasant time", when self is lost sight of and when we act and think for others.

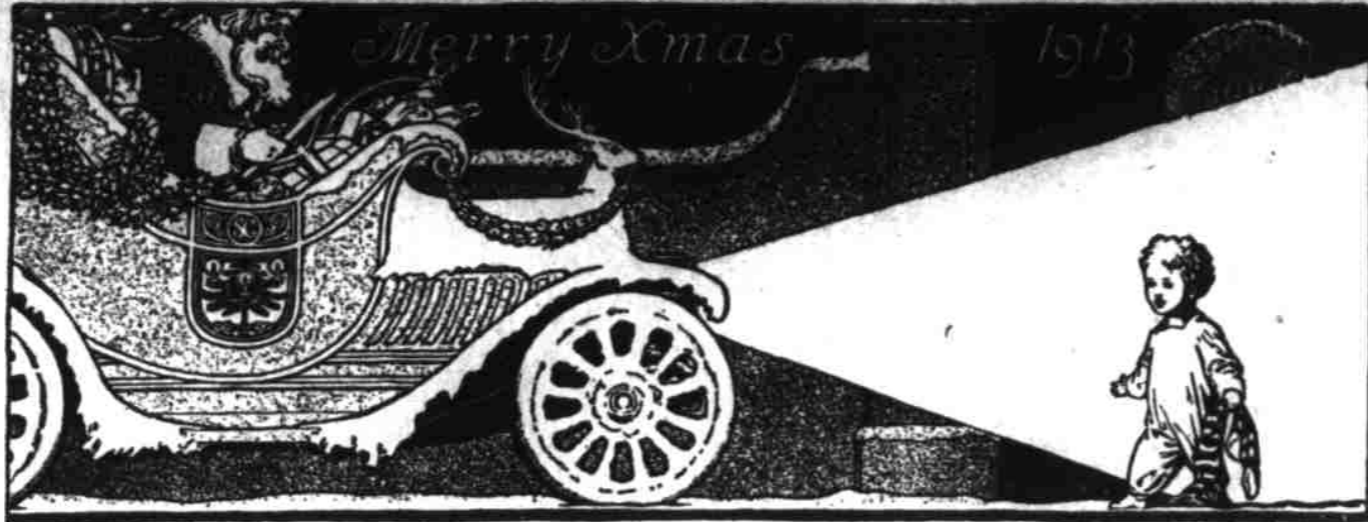
To each and every one of our large family of readers we extend the season's greetings. May Santa Claus be good to you all, both old and young, and may your cup of joy run over.

The old adage that "death loves a shining mark" was again strikingly exemplified yesterday in the passing of Mr. R. A. Froneberger, one of the city's most promising young business men.

Personals and Locals.

Mr. Frank Carpenter, of Stanley, was a Gastonia visitor Saturday. The government report of cotton ginned in Gaston county up to December 13th shows a total of 12,178 bales as compared with 10,738 bales ginned up to the same date last year.

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Hart Schaffner & Marx suits or overcoats at \$18 to \$25. A lasting, stylish, high-class thing; the best of its kind. H. Schneider This is the home of Hart Schaffner & Marx clothes

and entertainment at Ozark Methodist church tomorrow night at 8 o'clock. Mrs. D. A. Garrison left this morning for Concord to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Coltrane.

Miss Minnie Baker is critically ill at her home on Ozark street. Her sister, Mrs. Press Lee, of Lenoir, is at her bedside. Most of the cotton mills in Gastonia and the county will close today and tomorrow to remain closed for about a week.

Mr. E. A. Ballard and family, of Spencer, are spending the holidays here as the guests of Mr. Ballard's mother, Mrs. M. A. Ballard. Mr. John Odell Durham arrived Sunday night from Trinity College to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Durham.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Langford and two children, of Atlanta, are expected to arrive in the city tomorrow night on a visit to Mrs. Langford's father, Mr. G. H. Marvin. Recently the J. Flem Johnson Company changed its name to R. Hope Brison & Co. The owners are Messrs. R. Hope and Lee L. Brison.

Miss Mary Costner, aged thirty years, died Sunday afternoon at her home on the Union road four miles south of Gastonia. The funeral and burial took place Monday at eleven o'clock at Sandy Plains Baptist church. Charlotte Chronicle: Mr. H. L. Grice, who has been in the Charlotte ticket office of the Piedmont & Northern, has accepted a position with the Holland Drug Company, of Mount Holly, and will enter upon his new duties January 1.

Miss Pearl Abernethy, who is a member of the faculty of the high school at Holly Springs this year, has been the guest for a few days of her sisters, Mrs. D. P. Dellinger and Mrs. M. G. Anders. She left this morning for Caroleen to spend the holidays with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. R. S. Abernethy.

Subscribers whose time expires January first will do us a very great favor by sending in their renewals not later than the first day of the new year. In cases where we fail to hear from a subscriber when the time expires we invariably discontinue the paper. Promptness in renewing will save us the trouble of putting your name back on after it has been taken off, and will insure you against missing an issue of the paper.

We especially desire our correspondents at various places in the county to send us in news letters next week giving account of any of the social events of the Christmas time that are of interest. In those communities where we have no regular correspondents, we would be glad to have any reader of The Gazette who will do so to send us news letters telling how the people of the community are observing the holidays.

All the local banks will be closed on Thursday, observing Christmas as a legal holiday. Mr. N. B. Kendrick, of Cherryville, is in Gastonia on business today. Messrs. E. Ralph Rankin and Kirkpatrick Reid are at home from the University for the holidays.

Mr. Durward Morrow, a student in Mars Hill College, is spending the holidays here with homefolks. Mrs. M. M. Kendrick and children, of Rock Hill, S. C., will spend Christmas with relatives here. Mr. Francis Whitesides, of Trinity College, is here to spend the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Whitesides.

Mr. Raymond H. Ratchford is at home from Davidson College to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Ratchford, on route two. Mr. Clarence Johnson and Miss Mamie Johnson returned to their home at Mooresville yesterday after a visit to their uncle, Mr. W. H. Dellinger and family.

Thirteen cents is offered for the best cotton today on the local market, but most of the cotton being brought in is stains, which bring only ten to eleven cents. The county officers will all observe Christmas Day as a holiday and all county offices will be closed. Clerk of the Court C. C. Cornwell is in his office only from 9 to 3 o'clock each day during the holidays.

Rev. and Mrs. Plato Durham, of Charlotte, will spend Christmas Day in the city as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Durham at their home on East Third avenue. Rev. Mr. Durham is Presiding Elder of the Charlotte District, M. E. Church, South. Mr. and Mrs. William B. Stewart, of Dunlap, Tenn., are expected to arrive tomorrow to spend the holidays with the former's sisters, Mrs. J. W. Atkins and Mrs. Mattie S. Anderson. Mr. Stewart is prominent in Pythian circles in Tennessee. He is a past Grand Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias in that State, his term having expired last June.

What might have been quite a serious runaway occurred on West Main avenue yesterday afternoon when a team of gray horses said to belong to a Mr. Stroup, having been left unattended in front of Leventis' fruit stand started to run and were not stopped until they ran the wagon against a pole near the Trenton Mill and broke the tongue from its fastenings. The street was pretty well crowded with vehicles, but fortunately none of these was struck.

The marriage of Mr. John M. Elliott and Miss Martha Rhea Falls, which is to be solemnized this afternoon at 3 o'clock at the bride's home west of the city, will doubtless be attended by a large number of the friends and relatives of this popular young couple. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Elliott will be the guests for several days of the groom's father, Mr. A. B. Elliott, after which they will go to Atlanta, where they will make their home in the future. Mr. Elliott arrived here from Atlanta Sunday morning.

THE CHRISTMAS STOCKING. (This poem was written many years ago by Mr. Frank Pearson, of Sequatchie, Tenn., who during his life time wrote and published a great many poems. It is not known whether this poem ever appeared in print and, as it is reproduced here from memory entirely it may contain some slight errors.—Editor Gazette.) In the mystic light I'm sitting, Musing of long dead Decembers, While the fire-clad shapes are sitting In and out among the embers, In my hearthstone in mad races, And I marvel for, in seeming, I can dimly see the faces And the scenes of which I'm dreaming. Oh, glorious Christmas days of yore! In sweet anticipation, I lived their joys for days Before their happy realization; And on the dawn of Christmas morn My childish heart was beating A wild tattoo, as 'twould break

through As I unhang my stocking. And at my cries of glad surprise The others all came flocking. To share my glee and view with me The contents of my stocking. Years sped; I left each well-loved scene Mid Northern wilds to roam And there, 'mid tossing pine trees green, I made myself a home. We numbered three and blithe were we, At adverse fortune mocking, And at Christmastide by our fire-side Was hung the baby's stocking.

Alas to-night within our home No childish voice is ringing, And through its silent halls No light free airy step is springing. The wild winds wave o'er baby's grave, Where plummy pines are rocking, And crossed at rest on marble breast Are the hands that filled my stocking.

With misty eye but steady hand I raise this Christmas chalice: Here's to the children of the land In cabin or in palace; May each one hold the key of gold, The gates of glee unlocking, And hands be found the wrothe world round To fill the Christmas stocking.

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And remember---Jewelry is the best gift of all ---and every piece we sell is guaranteed---besides the price is right.

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